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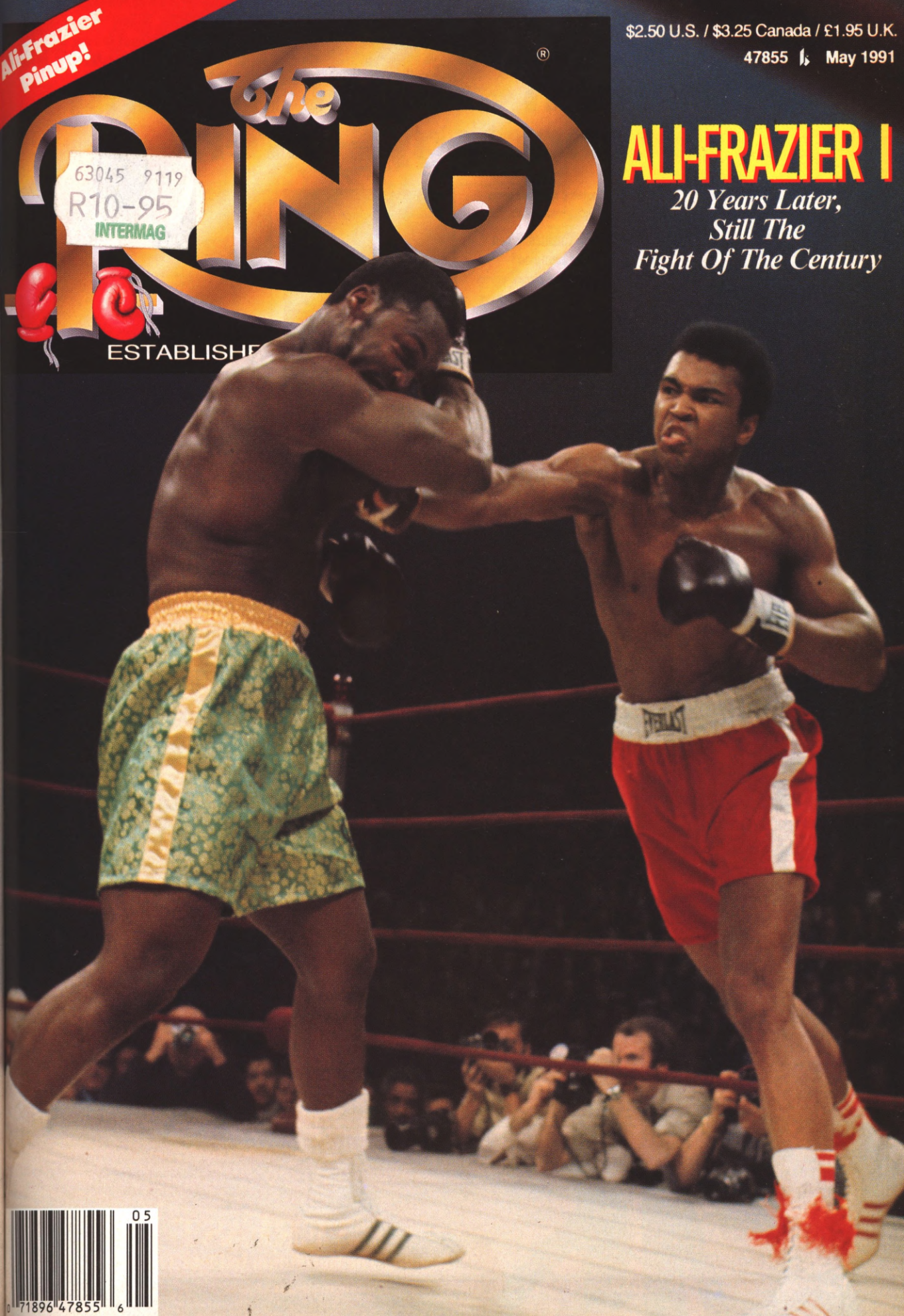

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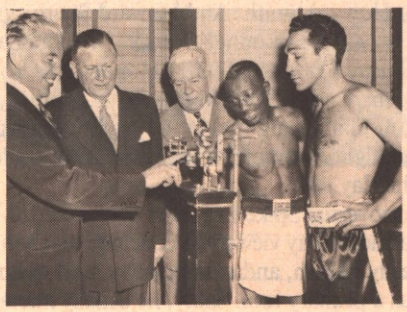

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RINGSIDE

During a six-round prelim, a boxing writer's mind tends to wander. Some random thoughts from ringside:

● On January 11, I paid $19.95 to watch Tommy Morrison crush James Tillis, Bruce Seldon smash Jose Ribalta, and Ray Mercer land a lucky punch against Francesco Damiani on pay-per-view. Two nights later, on ESPN, I watched two undefeated middleweight contenders, Merqui Sosa (18-0) and James Toney (23-0-1), clash in an intriguing crossroads contest. Sosa-Toney was a lot better bout than any in the heavyweight tripleheader, and it cost me nothing. The weekend served to illustrate why the pay-per-view phenomenon is going to alienate thousands of boxing fans.

● Manager Bill Cayton is smart, heavyweight Tommy Morrison can punch, and nothing else really matters. Mark my words: Morrison will someday challenge for the world title in a multi-million-dollar superfight. Until then, don't expect him to face any legitimate threats.

● Frank Deford, the editor-in-chief of *The National,* likes boxing about as much as root canal work. But that doesn't mean the newspaper's boxing coverage should read like a mimeographed newsletter written by a fifth-grader. *The National's* stories are consistently filled with factual errors, and its beat writer, Sam Donnellon, has been clearly overmatched.

A sidebar that ran in the January 17 issue offered an example of the care with which the staff researches and edits. Listing the heavyweights who won the world title as undefeated fighters, *The National* included Mike Weaver. Almost, guys. Weaver *would have* been undefeated when he won the title had he not lost to Howard Smith. And Howard Smith again. And Billy Ryan. And Larry Frazier. And Rodney Bobick. And Duane Bobick. And Stan Ward. And Leroy Jones. And Larry Holmes. But no one else.

● In 1950, there were 15 world title fights, In 1970, there were 31. In 1990, there were 116. That means that in the year 2010, there will be approximately 900 world title fights, or more than two per day. Carlos Padilla will even be able to quit his day job.

● The controversial Spike Lee short that preceded HBO's presentation of Tyson-Stewart led many viewers to conclude that King is a racist. He's not. He's just greedy, selfish, and manipulative, and when he needs something, he uses racism as a primary tool. Sadly, he usually manages to get what he wants.

● Michael Katz' column on Julio Cesar Chavez (page 14) is on target. But those who believe Chavez should have been the Duran of the '80s have the wrong fighter. It should have been Jeff Fenech, the subject of Jeff Ryan's column (page 16). The underexposed Fenech deserves part of the blame for staying put in Australia. More guilty, however, are the TV networks, who watched a rare gem fall at their feet and chose to walk away.

Steve Farhood
Editor-In-Chief

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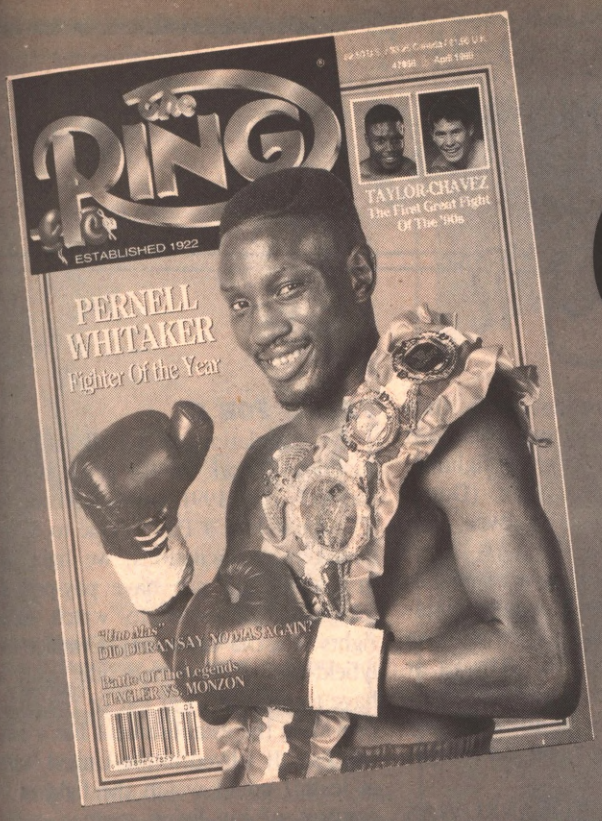

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The Ring, as always, welcomes and appreciates comments, questions, and criticism. Send your letters to The Ring, P.O. Box 768, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-9905. Be aware that letters may be edited for reasons of space and clarity.

BORING!

After watching Sugar "Run Away" Leonard, Michael "Run Like A" Nunn, "Sweet Flea" Whitaker, and Hector "Bicycle" Camacho, I have come to the conclusion that the media and boxing organizations need to re-evaluate how they score and view fights. The aforementioned "fighters" use their legs more than their fists. This has to stop, or we will continue to have to sit through boring fights like Leonard-Duran III, Camacho-Mancini, and Nunn-Barkley.

Only certain reporters thought those fights featured outstanding *boxing* skills. True fight fans thought they featured *boring* skills. Some may argue that running is just a way of not getting hit, which is the name of the game. But there is another way: dodging and countering. Watch a replay of the Roberto Duran-Davey Moore fight and notice how Duran blocks, slips, and rolls with punches, and then counters without taking one backward step. Not only was it great fighting, but it made for a great fight. (Duran did it again in his win over Iran Barkley.)

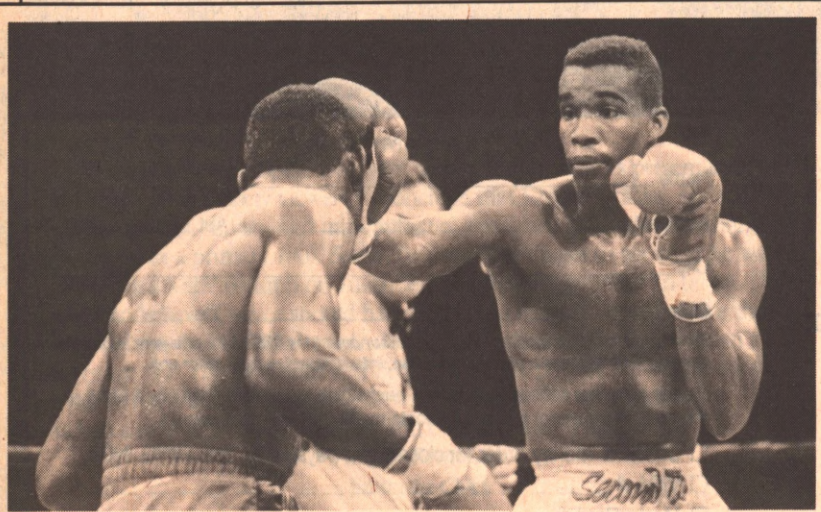
Judges should not give close rounds to the fighters who run. If they continue to score this way, perhaps we should shrink the ring to 10-by-10 or tie the fighters together with a four-foot rope. That might be the only way we'll ever see exciting fights on a regular basis.

JOHN R. COBARRUVIAS
Houston, TX

LET'S INVESTIGATE

The exclusive story by Robert Cassidy in the February 1991 issue, "45 Years After Losing To Graziano, Harold Green Says, 'I Was Told To Lay Down,' " was the best feature article to appear in *The Ring* since its comeback. It's time for *The Ring* detective to come out of retirement. Dan Daniel wore the badge in the past. Cassidy seems the right man for the gumshoe job today. Let the investigations begin.

EDDIE LARKIN
Newark, NJ



Quick and mobile fighters like Michael Nunn, shown jabbing at Iran Barkley, have bored certain fans with their run-and-shoot style. Would they be as effective if they stood and fought?

PAYING FOR IT

Congratulations to Jeff Ryan for his superlative work on the cover story of the February 1991 issue, "Boxing On TV: Now You'll Pay!" Due to federal government regulations, we fight fans in Canada do not have pay-per-view television. In order to watch superfights like the upcoming Evander Holyfield-George Foreman title fight, we have to go to a local bar or restaurant, providing the establishment has a satellite dish. If I lived in the United States, at least I could watch the fight in the comfort of my living room.

With ABC, NBC, and CBS cutting back on the number of televised fights, the biggest losers are the fans. And the fans in Canada seem doomed.

GLENN M. COURTNEY
Mississauga, Ontario

KING-BASHING

Don King has once again shown himself to be the King of Nausea. After watching Spike Lee's piece that preceded the Tyson-Stewart fight on HBO, I'm convinced that King is a racist, opportunist, manipulator, and a terminal cancer in the sport of boxing.

I realize this is not news to any real boxing fans. But now Tyson is spewing the same garbage as King. Tyson is King's puppet, the same as WBC President Jose Sulaiman. Tyson used to be a class guy who displayed humility, yet took care of business in a professional manner. I admired him for that. Now he acts like a spoiled brat who has had his sucker taken away.

During the Lee piece, I didn't hear one mention of Cus D'Amato and the impact he had on Tyson's life. Was it because Cus wasn't black? I'm sure that King would like to take the credit that D'Amato deserves.

How many disadvantaged young men, black or white, has Don King taken into his home, nurtured, and raised as if they were his own? If there were some, you can be sure he'd have a signed contract for a percentage of

Promoter Don King was described by reader Thomas D. Swertfeger as a "racist, opportunist, manipulator, and a terminal cancer."

their wages until the day they died.

King's attitudes will certainly contribute to Tyson's eventual and inevitable downfall. When that happens, I'll be leading the cheers. Tyson is a great fighter, but as a human being and a role model, he's a loser.

THOMAS D. SWERTFEGER
Los Alamos, NM

Southpaw Kenny Lane, best known as a lightweight title challenger, moved up to welterweight in 1959 and overcame a nasty cut to decision former world champion Virgil Akins.

MEMORY LANE

I've always been a big fan of southpaw Michigan lightweight Kenny Lane. Please settle two bets that I made with a friend. When Lane made his comeback in the '80s, he was 50. I know that he won his first fight by decision. There were a few more fights before he hung up his gloves for good. I say he won all of them. My friend says he lost his last fight. Also, during the first part of his career, did Lane ever fight as a welterweight?

LAWRENCE KORTCHNER
Lansing, MI

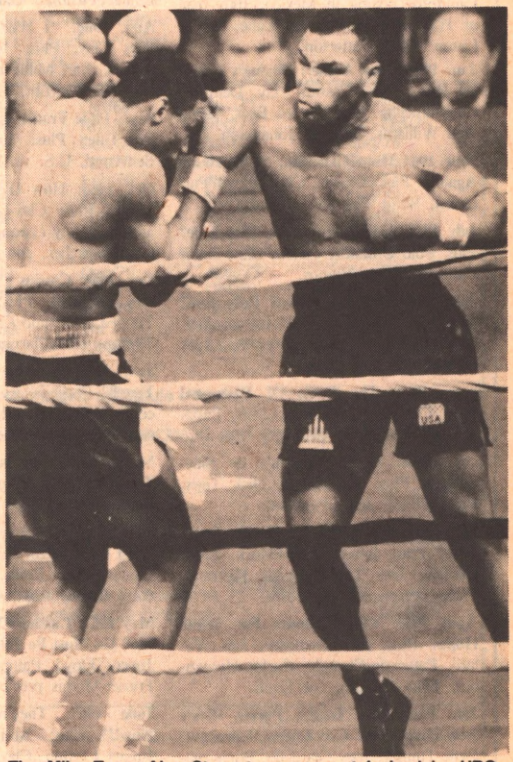
Editor's Note: Your friend is right. After 16 years away from the ring, Lane fought four times from 1982 to 1985. He won his first three efforts, then, in November 1985, lost an eight-round decision to Dave Guerra. Lane, who was unsuccessful in three tries for a world title (twice at lightweight and once at junior welterweight), boxed as a welterweight in the early-'60s.

HBO MISMATCHES

When is HBO going to stop boring its viewers with fights between top-caliber fighters and opponents obviously lacking in the skills needed to offer a good challenge? In December's heavyweight bout between Mike Tyson and Alex Stewart, there was a knockdown in the first 10 seconds. After that, it was just a matter of time before the inevitable. On the same card, we watched a superb fighter in Julio Cesar Chavez outclass a Korean named Kyung Duk Ahn, who wasn't exactly a household name. Ahn quit in the third round.

In HBO's previous offering, Tyson destroyed Henry Tillman, who couldn't find a place to hide and was stopped in the first round. I'm sure there are a lot of fans out there who would rather see a bout between fighters who are closely matched, even if they are not champions or former champions.

DAVE JORDAN
Colorado Springs, CO ■



The Mike Tyson-Alex Stewart massacre, televised by HBO, was an obvious mismatch, as was Tyson-Henry Tillman.

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April 1963: What Chance Has Patterson? Plus: Kenny Lane, Benny Leonard, Carlos Ortiz, Flash Elorde.

May 1963: Las Vegas—The New Capital. Plus: Jose Torres, Gus Lesnevich, Floyd Patterson, Sonny Liston, Cassius Clay, Luis Rodriguez, Tiger-Fullmer.

July 1963: Carlos Ortiz: "Vacate My Title?" Plus: Gene Fullmer, the flaw in Cassius Clay, Liston-Patterson II prefight, Paul Pender, Willie Pastrano.

Aug. 1963: Three Big Championship Fights (Pastrano-Johnson, Griffith-Rodriguez, Perkins-Cruz). Plus: Mike Jacobs, sour decisions, Rubin Carter, Liston-Patterson II preview, Jack Root.

Nov. 1963: "Who Am I? Ask Cleveland Williams," says Ernest Terrell. Plus: Sam Langford, boxing in Mexico, 10th year of Hall of Fame, Kenny Lane, Sonny Liston, Floyd Patterson.

Jan. 1964: Joey Archer: Boxing's Greatest Hero. Plus: Cassius Clay, Dempsey vs. Schmeling, Dempsey vs. Baer, Cleveland Williams, Ingemar Johansson.

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Oct. 1964: Liston Couldn't Be Sidetracked. Plus: TV boxing, Dick Tiger, Persol-Olson, Jesus Pimental.

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April 1965: Clay Clamors For White Hopes. Plus: Jack Dempsey, Jess Willard, Patterson-Chuvalo, Carlos Hernandez, Tony Galento, Joe Louis.

July 1965: Jose Torres, Puerto Rico's New Hero. Plus: Clay-Liston II prefight, Gene Tunney, Joey Giardello, Bonavena-Folley, George Chuvalo.

Aug. 1965: What Really Happened At Lewiston? Plus: Dick Tiger, Doc Kearns, Laguna-Ortiz, Patterson-Herring.

Sept. 1965: Walcott: Clay Could Beat Dempsey! Plus: Ali-Liston II backlash, Henry Hank, Willie Pep, Nino Benvenuti.

Oct. 1965: Will $$$ Still Lure Wilt? Plus: Jose Torres, Floyd Patterson, Joe Frazier, four ring hopefuls, Billy Conn, Liston-Clay, Flash Elorde.

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Dec. 1965: Experts Pick Clay vs. Patterson. Plus: Jose Torres, Sonny Liston, Joey Archer, Oscar Bonavena, Vicente Saldivar.

Title 1966: Explosion!!! Four Fights!!! Plus: Dick Tiger, Cassius Clay, Ernie Terrell, George Chuvalo.

April 1966: Who Has The Best Style To Beat Clay? Plus: Buster Mathis, Ernie Terrell, Marcel Cerdan, Dick Tiger, Rubin Carter, Carlos Ortiz.

May 1966: Who Will Tame Dick Tiger? Clay-Terrell preview, James Norris, Emile Griffith, Vicente Saldivar.

Aug. 1966: "I Will Retire Unbeaten!" Says Clay. Plus: Jose Torres, Randy Turpin, Karl Mildenberger, Clay-Cooper II, Emile Griffith, Harada-Jofre.

Sept. 1966: France Claims Its First Welter Title. Plus: Ernie Terrell, Nino Benvenuti, U.S. vs. Britain.

Oct. 1966: How Did Mildenberger Get There? Plus: Clay-London, Clay draft appeal, Sonny Liston, Louis-Schmeling I, Griffith-Archer, Joe Frazier.

Dec. 1966: Cassius Clay (painting by LeRoy Neiman). Plus: Frazier-Bonavena, Tony Zale, Primo Carnera, Clay-Terrell, Thompson-McClarnin, Floyd Patterson.

Jan. 1967: Is Time Running Out On Terrell? Plus: Torres-Tiger preview, long count mystery solved, Carlos Ortiz, Cassius Clay, Zora Folley, Johnny Persol.

March 1967: Why Isn't Clay Fighter Of The Year? Plus: Year-end issue, 2,500 fighters rated, Tiger-Torres, Clay-Terrell, Curtis Cokes.

April 1967: Death Stalks The Tiger. Plus: Cassius Clay, Emile Griffith, Mike Jacobs, Barney Ross, Joe Clark.

May 1967: Cassius Clay: "Louis Clobber Me? He Must Be Joking!" Plus: Frazier-Jones, Floyd Patterson, Carlos Ortiz, Frazier-Mathis preview, Nino Benvenuti.

June 1967: They're Talking Frazier Now!!! Plus: Ali-Folley, Joe Louis, Ismael Laguna, Clay-Ellis?, Joe Gans.

Aug. 1967: Karl Mildenberger: Germany's Second Schmeling? Plus: Nino Benvenuti, Foster-Cotton, Curtis Cokes, Tiger-Torres II, heavyweight analysis.

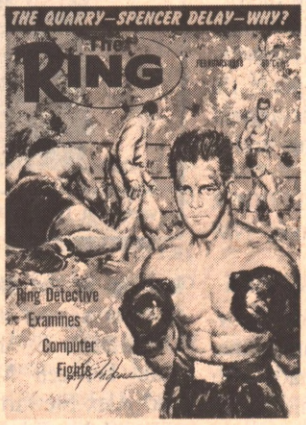
Sept. 1967: Nino Benvenuti: Italy's Greatest Ever? Plus: Sonny Liston, Primo Carnera dead, Clay's court battles, Vicente Saldivar, Yoshiaki Numata.

Oct. 1967: Frazier's Demolition Of Chuvalo Sparked Ice Bag Mystery. Plus: Ortiz-Ramos, Madison Square Garden tourney, Primo Carnera tribute.

Nov. 1967: Can Thad Spencer Match Frazier's KO Punch? Plus: Buster Mathis, Jimmy Ellis, Sonny Liston, heavyweight elimination tourney, Carlos Ortiz.

Dec. 1967: Jack Dempsey Picks Next Heavyweight Champion. Plus: Griffith-Benvenuti II, Joe Frazier, Gans-McGovern controversy, Buster Mathis.

Jan. 1968: Corbett-Dempsey Computer Fight. Plus: Joe Frazier, Jerry Quarry, Jimmy Ellis, Thad Spencer, Vicente Saldivar retires.



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March 1968: Joe Frazier: Fighter Of The Year (96-Page Special). Plus: Year-end awards, Ali's legal problems, Joe Frazier, Jimmy Ellis, Rocky Marciano, James J. Jeffries, Jack Johnson.

April 1968: Spectre Of Clay Haunts Heavy Situation (painting by LeRoy Neiman) Plus: Transcript of Clay trial, Rocky Marciano, Ingemar Johansson, Bob Foster, Jerry Quarry.

May 1968: Quarry Revives White Hope Cry!!! Plus: Frazier-Mathis, Jimmy Ellis, Joe Frazier, Dick Tiger, Bob Foster, Nino Benvenuti.

June 1968: Boone Kirkman: Heavyweight Threat. Plus: Ken Buchanan, Sonny Liston, Ernie Terrell, southpaws, Nino Benvenuti & Frank Sinatra.

July 1968: Sonny Liston: Secret Story. Plus: Curtis Cokes, Sugar Ray Robinson, Joe Louis, Jose Torres, Henry Armstrong, Frazier-Ellis?, Bob Foster.

Aug. 1968: "Fight Or Jail": Crisis For Clay. Plus: Foster-Tiger, New Jersey fighters, Jose Torres, boxing commercials, Jimmy Ellis.

Sept. 1968: Foster: "I'm The Best Fighter In The World." Plus: Joe Frazier, Jimmy Ellis, Jack Dempsey, Manuel Ramos, Ortiz-Cruz, heavyweight enigmas.

Oct. 1968: Olympics Beckon To Seekers Of Heavyweight Riches. Plus: Joe Frazier, Sonny Liston, Joe Louis, middleweights, Buster Mathis.

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Dec. 1968: Is World Boxing Association Crumbling? Plus: Ellis-Patterson, George Chuvalo, Kid Gavilan, Bob Foster.

Jan. 1969: Jack Johnson, Faker Or Loser? Plus: Jess Willard, Jack Johnson, all-time middleweight tournament, George Foreman, Dick Tiger, Doyle Baird.

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March 1969: Nino Benvenuti: Fighter Of The Year (96-Page Special). Plus: Year-end awards, greatest in each division, Jess Willard's death, Frazier-Bonavena, Liston-Lincoln.

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June 1969: Do Women Really Rule Boxing? Plus: Mando Ramos, trainers, Cassius Clay, Jerry Quarry, knockdown rule.

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Nov. 1969: How Much Has Aging Liston Left? Plus: Ruben Olivares, Tommy Walsh, Battling Levinsky, referees.

Dec. 1969: Was Marciano Greatest Heavyweight? Plus: Mexican champs, Joe Louis, Jerry Quarry, Sonny Liston, Tom Bogs.

Jan. 1970: Why Is Clay Ballyhooing Frazier? Plus: Rocky Marciano, Jimmy Ellis, Napoles-Griffith.

Feb. 1970: Computer Controversy—Clay Or Marciano? Plus: Nino Benvenuti, Dick Tiger, Mike Quarry, Carlos Ortiz, Foreman-Davila, Johnny Griffin.

April 1970: 50 Greatest Ring Upsets! Plus: Boxing's Young Lions, the light heavyweight division, Joe Frazier, Jimmy Ellis, Muhammad Ali, Clay-Marciano.

June 1970: Stars Warn Frazier On His Future! Plus: Willie Pep, Bethea-Benvenuti, Ken Buchanan, Joe Frazier.

July 1970: Is Jose Urtain Boxing's New Superman? Plus: Foster-Frazier, Zale-Graziano wars, Luis Firpo.

Nov. 1970: Is George Foreman For Real? Plus: Foreman-Chuvalo, British fighters, Randy Turpin, Tommy Farr.

When Cassius Clay made his pro debut in 1960, *The Ring* was there. When "The Greatest" fought Joe Frazier for the heavyweight title in 1971, *The Ring* was there. Before Carlos Monzon, Jose Napoles, and Roberto Duran made names for themselves, the readers of *The Ring* were already talking about them. *The Ring* covered all the boxing events and personalities of the '60s and '70s as no other magazine could—and now a limited supply of back issues from those two decades are available for $10 each (including postage and handling).

Dec. 1970: Frazier's Title In Jeopardy? Plus: Patterson-Green, Bob Foster, Frazier-Foreman preview, Schmeling-Sharkey.

Jan. 1971: Jail Or Title For Cassius Clay? Plus: Castillo-Olivares, Buchanan-Laguna, Jose Napoles, Clay-Quarry, Clay vs. Frazier?

April 1971: Frazier-Clay In Three-Bout Series? Plus: Sonny Liston, Billy Backus, greatest fights ever, Mike Quarry.

July 1971: Is George Foreman Next Champ? Plus: Frazier-Clay, Olivares-Castillo, 105 rounds of mayhem, Nicolino Loche, Foster-Anderson.

Aug. 1971: Nino's Kayo—U.S. Judge Tells All! Plus: Wilt Chamberlain, Monzon-Benvenuti II, Adolph Pruitt, Napoles-Backus II, Denny McNamee.

Nov. 1971: Gene Tunney Finally Talks: On Clay, Frazier, Dempsey! Plus: Jose Napoles, Al Silvani, Clay-Frazier II?, Cus D'Amato, Marcano-Kobayashi, Ezzard Charles, Ruben Navarro.

Dec. 1971: Buchanan No. 1 In Fistic Cleverness? Plus: Monzon-Griffith I, Joe Bugner, Tommy Burns, Buchanan-Duran?, New York Boxing, Bodell-Bugner, "Halimi" Gutierrez.

April 1972: Is Frazier-Clay Rematch Off? Plus: Frazier-Daniels, Clay-Blin, Hall Of Fame (Graziano, Saddler, Berlenbach, Clark, Flowers), Armando Muniz, Pascual Perez, Griffith rates Monzon, fights that never came off, Tito Lectoure.

Dec. 1972: Muhammad Ali: "I Will Bring Peace To The World" Plus: Ali-Patterson, Ortiz-Buchanan, Foster-Finnegan, Armando Muniz, Joe Walcott, 1972 Olympics, Carmona-Ramos.

Jan. 1973: Big Heavyweight Shakeup! Plus: Lyle-Mathis, Bugner-Blin, Griffith-DeNucci, WBA, Jack Sharkey, the man who stopped Ali, Bennie Briscoe, Ray Lampkin, Kid Chocolate, Ernie Terrell, Walter Seeley, Chacon-Reyes.

Feb. 1973: Is Heavyweight Ron Lyle For Real? Plus: Ali-Foster, Duran-DeJesus I, Monzon-Briscoe II, Danny Lopez, Antonio Cervantes, Frazier-Foreman preview.

April 1973: Is Champ Foreman For Real? Plus: Foreman-Frazier I, Rudiger Schmidke, Hall Of Fame (Rosenbloom, Zivic, Jack, Papke, LaBarba), Sugar Ray Seales, Rodolfo Gonzalez.

May 1973: Special Heavyweight Issue! Plus: George Foreman, Muhammad Ali, upsets, Foreman-Frazier feedback, Jerry Quarry, DeJesus-Lampkin.

June 1973: World Heavyweight Championship: Foreman-Quarry! Plus: Ali-Norton I, Louis-Conn, Carlos Monzon, Shibata-Villaflor, Napoles-Lopez, Harry Warren, Filipino Nabalatan, Garden nostalgia, Gonzalez-Navarro.

Aug. 1973: Joe Frazier: "I Will Beat Foreman Or Quit!" Plus: Ruben Olivares, Bobby Chacon, Carol Polis, Monzon-Griffith II, Vito Antuofermo, Herrera-Martinez, Lopez-Ordunez.

Oct. 1973: The Private Life Of George Foreman Plus: Carlos Monzon, WBA/WBC, Frazier-Bugner, George Foreman, DeJesus-Lampkin II.

NOVEMBER 1973

Nov. 1973: World Title Fight Barrage! Plus: Foreman-Roman, Foster-Fourie, Joe Bugner, Gentleman Jim Corbett, Harry Greb, Anaya-Pinder, Henry Nissen, Muniz-Lopez.

Dec. 1973: Is Ali Ready For Foreman? Plus: Napoles-Gray, Monzon-Bouttier, Yancey Durham's death, Paddy Ryan, Ali-Norton II, the heavyweight picture, Cervantes-Giminez, Conteh-Rondon.

Dec. 1974: Inside Story From Zaire! Plus: Foreman-Ali postponement, Bob Foster's retirement, Teofilo Stevenson, Chacon-Marcano, Roberto Duran, Jimmy Wilde & Barney Ross.

April 1975: Chuck Wepner Story: A Tale Out Of Fiction. Plus: Joe Louis, Redd Foxx, Hall of Fame (Curtis, Fullmer, Tiger, Klaus, Chaney), Alexis Arguello, Marvin Hagler, Chacon-Lopez, Ali-Foreman II?, Miguel Canto.

Sept.-Oct. 1975: Is Ali Punch Fact Or Fiction? Plus: Don King, Ali-Bugner II, Monzon-Licata, Duran-Peterson, Olivares-Chacon, Galindez-Ahumada, Monroe-Hart, Ezzard Charles dies.

Aug. 1976: First American To Hold Word Title In Each Division. Plus: John L. Sullivan, Ali-Dunn, DeJesus-Suzuki, Zarate-Martinez, Foster's comeback, Duran-Mamby, Lopez-Gomez.

Sept. 1976: Ali-Norton: Special Heavyweight Issue! Plus: Vonzell Johnson, Palomino-Stracey, Galindez-Kates, Foreman-Frazier II, Arguello-Torres, Oscar Bonavena's death.

June 1977: What Now, George Foreman? Plus: Marvis Frazier, Carlos Palomino, Harold Weston, Antuofermo-Hart, Lyle-Bugner, Gazo-Castellini, Conteh-Hutchins, the comeback of George Chuvalo, Jimmy Young, Hagler-Monroe.

Sept. 1977: Norton-Young: Winner To Fight Ali! Plus: Sugar Ray Leonard, Michael and Leon Spinks, John Tate, Palomino-Green, Galindez-Kates II, Wilfredo Gomez, Irish-American fighters.

Nov. 1977: Monzon Retires Plus: Undefeated middleweights, middleweight analysis, Bennie Briscoe, Roberto Duran, Cuevas-Gray, Alexis Arguello, Wilfred Benitez, Monzon-Valdes II.

Feb. 1978: Exclusive Coverage: Norton vs. Young. Plus: Galindez-Gregory, Saensak Muangsurin, Leon Spinks, Matt Franklin, Valdes-Briscoe, heavyweight comebacks, Jerry Quarry, Ray Leonard, Carlos Zarate

July 1979: Foreman Exclusive: Preach Or Punch? Plus: Mike Weaver, Jack Sharkey, Galindez-Rossman II, Franklin-Johnson II, Jorge Lujan, Watt-Pitalua, Chacon-Limon II, Conteh-Burnett, Leonard-Viruet, federal commission?

Aug. 1979: Fights You Want To See! Plus: Leonard-Geraldo, Hearns-Weston, Ron Lyle, James Scott, Jeff Chandler, Davey Moore, Scandinavian fighters, big-fight previews.

Sept. 1979: Is Holmes Ali's Successor? Plus: Holmes-Weaver, Duran-Palomino, Lopez-Ayala, Coetzee-Spinks, Pintor-Zarate, Tate-Knoetze, Kim-Guisseppi, Lopez-Ayala, Gomez-Hernandez, German greats, Rocky II.

Nov. 1979: Leonard: Sweet Enough To Be Called "Sugar Ray"? Plus: Wilfred Benitez, Willie Pep, 10 worst heavyweights, Monzon comback?, Cuevas-Shields, Leonard-Ranzany, Muhammad-Conteh, Hilmer Kenty.

Dec. 1979: What's Next For Larry Holmes? Plus: Holmes-Shavers II, Pipino Cuevas, Thomas Hearns, Arum & King, Leonard-Price, Gomez-Mendoza.

☐ Oct/61	☐ Apr/65	☐ Jan/67	☐ May/68	☐ Oct/69	☐ Nov/71	☐ Apr/75
☐ Sep/62	☐ Jul/65	☐ Mar/67	☐ Jun/68	☐ Nov/69	☐ Dec/71	☐ Sep-Oct/75
☐ Apr/63	☐ Aug/65	☐ Apr/67	☐ Jul/68	☐ Dec/69	☐ Apr/72	☐ Aug/76
☐ May/63	☐ Sep/65	☐ May/67	☐ Aug/68	☐ Jan/70	☐ Dec/72	☐ Sep/76
☐ Jul/63	☐ Oct/65	☐ Jun/67	☐ Sep/68	☐ Feb/70	☐ Jan/73	☐ Jun/77
☐ Aug/63	☐ Nov/65	☐ Aug/67	☐ Oct/68	☐ Apr/70	☐ Feb/73	☐ Sep/77
☐ Nov/63	☐ Dec/65	☐ Sep/67	☐ Nov/68	☐ Jun/70	☐ Apr/73	☐ Nov/77
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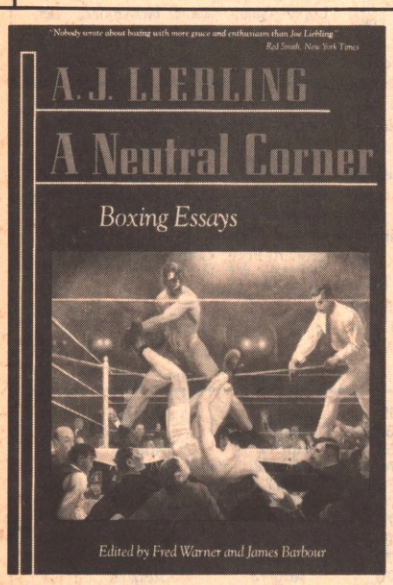
ROUND ONE

LIEBLING REVISITED: In boxing circles, A.J. Liebling is considered the literary equivalent of Sugar Ray Robinson. Noun for noun, Liebling's prose is the best. A critic and journalist, Liebling is best known for *The Sweet Science,* a must read for fight fans. *A Neutral Corner,* a collection of previously unpublished essays written from 1952 to 1963, isn't quite as good, but don't bother searching for anything better, because you won't find it.



Liebling: A prose pro

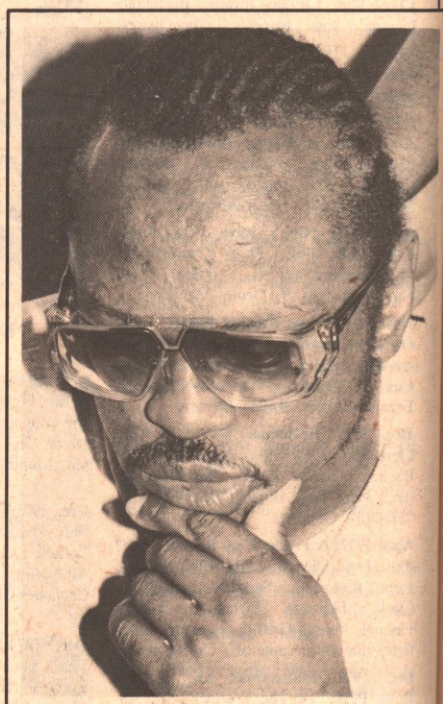
Bill Barich begins the book's foreword by concluding that "boxing has always been the meannest game in town, but you'd never know it from reading A.J. Liebling." Liebling's love and enthusiasm for the game and its players is infectious, and his pages leave you with a good feeling about being a boxing fan.

In *A Neutral Corner,* Liebling's subjects include Stillman's Gym, Archie Moore, Ingemar Johansson, Cassius Clay, Dick Tiger, Sonny Liston, and the introspective Floyd Patterson, whom Liebling dissects even better than the fighter can. The writer can be a bit heavy; in one chapter, Liebling draws an analogy between the Johansson-Patterson grudge and the 13th century war between the Sultan Muhammad of Khorazm and Genghis Khan, and in another, he compared Moore's deliberate style to Clytemnestra throwing a web over Agamemnon before Aegisthus hit him with the axe. But before you get discouraged, give Liebling a chance. He is actually quite readable, especially once you get past the first four chapters.

***

Jack Newfield, formerly of *The Village Voice* and the New York *Daily News,* is an outstanding investigative journalist who happens to love boxing. Newfield has begun research for a biography of Don King that figures to be published in 1993. Knowing Newfield, the book will probably make King's hair fall down.

—Steve Farhood



Dokes: Busted in Vegas

DOKES ARRESTED: Michael "Dynamite" Dokes was arrested in Las Vegas on January 12 on a variety of charges. According to police, the charges included possession of cocaine, driving while under the influence of a controlled substance, resisting arrest, destruction of evidence, speeding, and failing to register with police as an ex-felon.

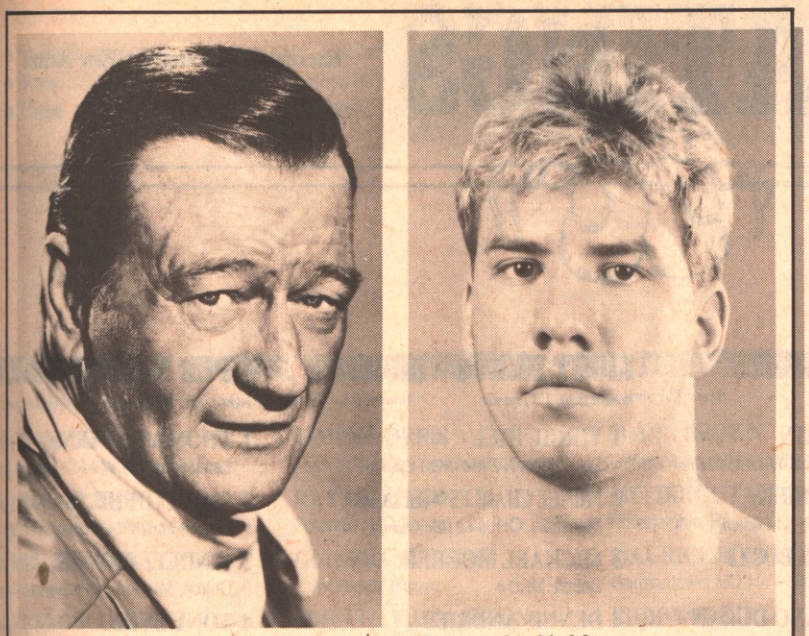
Dokes, who was driving a Mercedes-Benz, was pulled over for speeding. According to reports, when an officer told the fighter that he was under arrest, Dokes allegedly ran off and tossed a packet containing a white substance from his pocket. He was eventually caught in a vacant lot and placed under arrest. He was released after posting a $9,800 bond.

The former WBA heavyweight champion launched a comeback in December 1987, following a 33-month layoff, during which he underwent rehabilitation for cocaine abuse. Late last year, the heavyweight and his father-figure and advisor, Marty Cohen, split. "Guess people don't want to stand by you when you start to lose," Dokes said.

In March 1989, Evander Holyfield stopped Dokes in the 10th round of a particularly brutal fight. In April 1990, Dokes suffered another sensational knockout loss, at the hands of Razor Ruddock at Madison Square Garden. The defeats dropped Dokes to 41-3-2 (27). Nevertheless, at the time of his arrest, he was under consideration for a match with Tyson.

—Joseph C. Tintle

IS HE, OR ISN'T HE?: Before he won his starring role in *Rocky V,* up-and-coming heavyweight Tommy "The Duke" Morrison was publicized because of his claim that he was the great grandnephew of the legendary John Wayne, whose real name was Marion Michael Morrison. When *Los*



Wayne and Morrison: Separated at birth?

Angeles Times boxing writer Earl Gustkey asked movie producer Michael Wayne, one of the movie star's sons, about the young fighter, he replied, "To the best of our knowledge, he's not related to our family. But, if he becomes champion, we'll claim him."

Is "The Duke" related to "The Duke" or was the whole story a publicity stunt? An official at Morrison's high school in Jay, Oklahoma, said, "Around here, it's common knowledge that they are related."

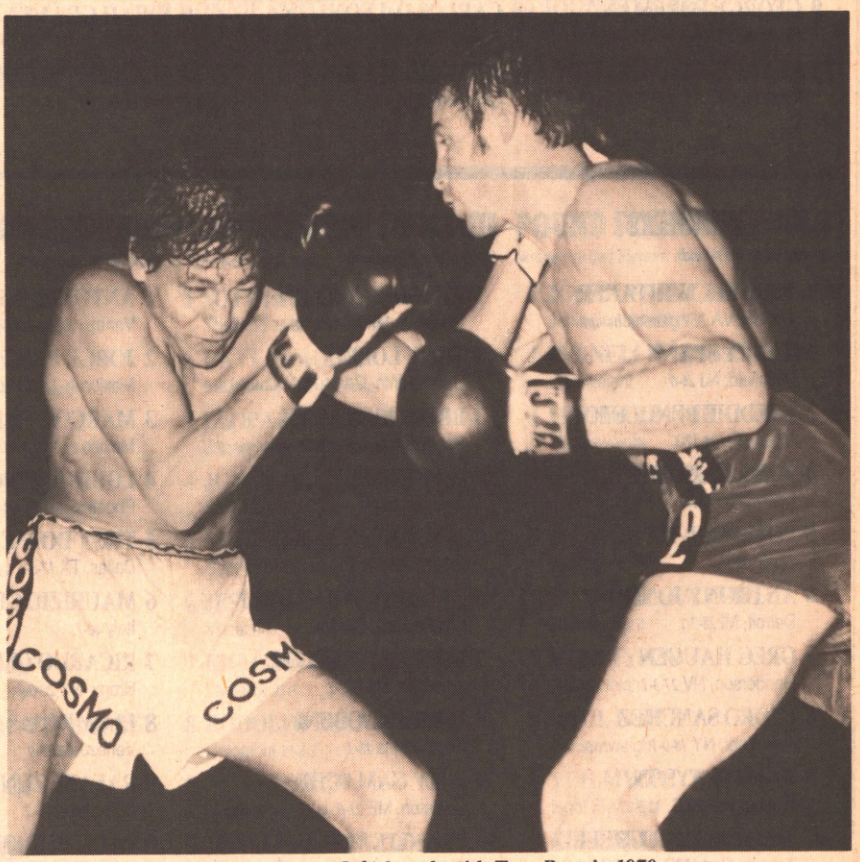
Bill Cayton, Morrison's co-manager, explained it quite simply. "How many people know who their third cousins are?" he said. "I've had people come up to me and say that we're related. And I've never heard of them. But after they mention an aunt or uncle, you know that they are."

Tim Morrison, Tommy's father, was more specific. "Tommy's great grandfather and John Wayne's grandfather were first cousins," he told *The Ring*. "We're going back well over 100 years. I don't know if there is such a thing as a great grandnephew, but the two families are blood related."

Tim Morrison added that one of Tommy's great grandmothers was a Sackett, and, as such, a member of one of the most famous American frontier families of the 1800s. So it seems that on one side of the heavyweight's family was an ancestor who helped tame the wild frontier, and on the other, one who glorified it.

—Ed Maloney

OUTSIDE THE ROPES: Light heavyweight Marcellus Allen, a kayo loser to Michael Moorer in February 1990, was shot to death by his estranged girlfriend in Allen's native Portland, Oregon, police said. Allen was 24 . . . Undisputed heavyweight champion Evander Holyfield has reunited with manager Ken Sanders. "Once we spoke for 30 minutes, everything was fine," Sanders said. The pair had split in 1990 because of financial differences. In addition, Holyfield and his wife Paulette have agreed on an out-of-court divorce settlement.. . . The California-based U.S. Television Fan Association revealed the results of its recent poll, in which 1,058 female members were asked to pick the sexiest sports stars of the '80s. The winner in boxing: Sugar Ray Leonard . . . Boxing videos are hot. A new and notable entry is *Emile Griffith's Learn To Box,* which offers well-presented instruction for beginners . . . Carlos Duran, 54, the father of WBC cruiserweight champion Massimiliano Duran, was killed in an auto accident in Italy. In November 1967, Duran won the European middleweight title by stopping Luis Folledo . . . The USA cable network has struck a six-fight deal with Detroit's sizzling junior welterweight Oba Carr, 15-0 (11). Carr is the latest product of the Kronk gym assembly line. ■



Carlos Duran (left) brawls with Tom Bogs in 1970

THE RING RATINGS

Records Compiled By Eric Armit

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Weight Unlimited

1 **EVANDER HOLYFIELD**
Atlanta, GA *25-0 (World Champ)*

2 **MIKE TYSON**
Catskill, NY *39-1*

3 **RAZOR RUDDOCK**
Canada *25-1-1*

4 **BUSTER DOUGLAS**
Columbus, OH *30-5-1*

5 **TIM WITHERSPOON**
Philadelphia, PA *33-3*

6 **CARL WILLIAMS**
White Plains, NY *23-3*

7 **RIDDICK BOWE**
Brooklyn, NY *21-0*

8 **RAY MERCER**
Union, NJ *17-0*

9 **GEORGE FOREMAN**
Humble, TX *69-2*

10 **FRANCESCO DAMIANI**
Italy *27-1*

CRUISERWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 195 pounds

1 **JEFF LAMPKIN**
Youngstown, OH *35-13-1 (IBF Champ)*

2 **ROBERT DANIELS**
Miami, FL *17-1-1 (WBA Champ)*

3 **TAOUFIK BELBOULI**
France *29-1-1*

4 **MASSIMILIANO DURAN**
Italy *18-0 (WBC Champ)*

5 **ANACLET WAMBA**
France *28-2*

6 **JOHNNY NELSON**
England *20-5-1*

7 **JAMES WARRING**
Miami, FL *11-1*

8 **NATE MILLER**
Philadelphia, PA *18-2*

9 **CARLOS DeLEON**
Puerto Rico *42-6-1*

10 **RICHARD MASON**
Cincinnati, OH *17-2-1*

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 175 pounds

1 **VIRGIL HILL**
Las Vegas, NV *30-0 (WBA Champ)*

2 **PRINCE CHARLES WILLIAMS**
Mansfield, OH *30-4-2 (IBF Champ)*

3 **MICHAEL MOORER**
Detroit, MI *22-0*

4 **DENNIS ANDRIES**
Detroit, MI *38-8-2 (WBC Champ)*

5 **BOBBY CZYZ**
Wanaque, NJ *37-5*

6 **JEFF HARDING**
Australia *19-1*

7 **BOOKER T. WORD**
Ypsilanti, MI *18-1-1*

8 **GRACIANO ROCCHIGIANI**
Germany *30-0*

9 **URIAH GRANT**
Miami, FL *21-8*

10 **FRANK WINTERSTEIN**
France *50-1-1*

SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 168 pounds

1 **THOMAS HEARNS**
Las Vegas, NV *47-3-1*

2 **CHRISTOPHE TIOZZO**
France *28-0 (WBA Champ)*

3 **LINDELL HOLMES**
Detroit, MI *43-5-1 (IBF Champ)*

4 **TONY BYRD**
Los Angeles, CA *18-1-1*

5 **MAURO GALVANO**
Italy *16-1-2 (WBC Champ)*

6 **VICTOR CORDOVA**
Panama *13-2*

7 **JOHN JARVIS**
Richmond, VA *22-2*

8 **JUAN CARLOS GIMENEZ**
Paraguay *33-4-3*

9 **TONY THORNTON**
Glassboro, NJ *26-4-1*

10 **DARIO MATTEONI**
Argentina *25-2-1*

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 135 pounds

1 **PERNELL WHITAKER**
Norfolk, VA *24-1 (World Champ)*

2 **TRACY SPANN**
Plainfield, NJ *26-0*

3 **FREDDIE PENDLETON**
Miami, FL *28-17-3*

4 **JUAN NAZARIO**
Puerto Rico *22-3*

5 **POLI DIAZ**
Spain *30-0*

6 **ANTHONY JONES**
Detroit, MI *28-2-1*

7 **GREG HAUGEN**
Henderson, NV *27-3-1*

8 **PEDRO SANCHEZ**
New York, NY *18-0-1*

9 **DARRYL TYSON**
Washington, D.C. *32-3*

10 **SHARMBA MITCHELL**
Takoma Park, MD *20-0*

JR. LIGHTWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 130 pounds

1 **AZUMAH NELSON**
Ghana *32-2 (WBC Champ)*

2 **TONY LOPEZ**
Sacramento, CA *36-2 (IBF Champ)*

3 **BRIAN MITCHELL**
South Africa *42-1-2 (WBA Champ)*

4 **JEFF FENECH**
Australia *24-0*

5 **JOHN-JOHN MOLINA**
Puerto Rico *22-3*

6 **GENARO HERNANDEZ**
Los Angeles, CA *22-0*

7 **BERNARD TAYLOR**
Knoxville, TN *41-2-2*

8 **JERRY NGOBENI**
South Africa *18-1*

9 **JOEY GAMACHE**
Lewiston, ME *21-0*

10 **FRANKIE MITCHELL**
Philadelphia, PA *25-1*

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 126 pounds

1 **ANTONIO ESPARRAGOZA**
Venezuela *30-1-4 (WBA Champ)*

2 **JORGE PAEZ**
Mexico *36-3-3 (IBF Champ)*

3 **MARCOS VILLASANA**
Mexico *51-7-2 (WBC Champ)*

4 **LOUIE ESPINOZA**
Phoenix, AZ *39-4-2*

5 **TROY DORSEY**
Dallas, TX *12-3-4*

6 **MAURIZIO STECCA**
Italy *40-1*

7 **RICARDO CEPEDA**
Bronx, NY *20-0-1*

8 **ELOY ROJAS**
Venezuela *19-0*

9 **RAFAEL ZUNIGA**
Colombia *24-0-2*

10 **PAUL HODKINSON**
England *19-1-1*

JR. FEATHERWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 122 pounds

1 **PEDRO DECIMA**
Argentina *26-2 (WBC Champ)*

2 **JESSE BENAVIDES**
Corpus Christi, TX *32-1*

3 **WELCOME NCITA**
South Africa *27-0 (IBF Champ)*

4 **PAUL BANKE**
Quail Valley, CA *19-5*

5 **JESUS SALUD**
San Diego, CA *35-4*

6 **TRACY PATTERSON**
New Paltz, NY *38-2*

7 **LUIS MENDOZA**
Colombia *29-2-2 (WBA Champ)*

8 **DANIEL ZARAGOZA**
Mexico *40-5-1*

9 **JEMAL HINTON**
District Heights, MD *14-0*

10 **YONG HOON LEE**
South Korea *17-0*

How Our Ratings Are Compiled

- In each division, fighters are ranked according to their abilities and accomplishments.
- Being champion does not necessarily mean a fighter will be rated at the top of his weight class.
- These ratings reflect how the best fighters in the world rate against one another.

For Period Ended January 15, 1991

MIDDLEWEIGHTS

Weight limit: 160 pounds

1 **MICHAEL NUNN**
Los Angeles, CA *36-0 (IBF Champ)*

2 **JULIAN JACKSON**
Virgin Islands *40-1 (WBC Champ)*

3 **SUMBU KALAMBAY**
Italy *50-4-1*

4 **MIKE McCALLUM**
Brooklyn, NY *38-1 (WBA Champ)*

5 **STEVE COLLINS**
Brockton, MA *18-1*

6 **CHRIS EUBANK**
England *25-0*

7 **JAMES TONEY**
Ann Arbor, MI *24-0-1*

8 **MICHAEL WATSON**
England *23-2-1*

9 **NIGEL BENN**
England *27-2*

10 **REGGIE JOHNSON**
Houston, TX *28-1-1*

JR. MIDDLEWEIGHTS

Weight limit: 154 pounds

1 **TERRY NORRIS**
Mission Valley, CA *26-3 (WBC Champ)*

2 **RAY LEONARD**
Potomac, MD *36-1-1*

3 **GIANFRANCO ROSI**
Italy *50-3 (IBF Champ)*

4 **JOHN DAVID JACKSON**
Tucson, AZ *22-0*

5 **JULIO CESAR VASQUEZ**
Argentina *26-0*

6 **GILBERT DELE**
France *25-0-1*

7 **JORGE CASTRO**
Argentina *51-2-2*

8 **CARLOS ELLIOTT**
Japan *26-2*

9 **TYRONE TRICE**
Milwaukee, WI *37-3*

10 **GLENN WOLFE**
Miami, FL *27-1-1*

WELTERWEIGHTS

Weight limit: 147 pounds

1 **SIMON BROWN**
Germantown, MD *33-1 (IBF Champ)*

2 **MELDRICK TAYLOR**
Philadelphia, PA *25-1-1*

3 **MAURICE BLOCKER**
Germantown, MD *32-1 (WBC Champ)*

4 **BUDDY McGIRT**
Brentwood, NY *50-2-1*

5 **AARON DAVIS**
Bronx, NY *32-0 (WBA Champ)*

6 **MARK BRELAND**
New York, NY *27-2-1*

7 **GLENWOOD BROWN**
Plainfeild, NJ *33-1*

8 **ENGELS PEDROZA**
Long Beach, CA *31-2*

9 **LONNIE SMITH**
Denver, CO *28-2-1*

10 **GENARO LEON**
Mexico *36-2-2*

JR. WELTERWEIGHTS

Weight limit: 140 pounds

1 **JULIO CESAR CHAVEZ**
Mexico *73-0 (WBC & IBF Champ)*

2 **LORETO GARZA**
Sacramento, CA *28-1-1 (WBA Champ)*

3 **ROGER MAYWEATHER**
Las Vegas, NV *39-6*

4 **HECTOR CAMACHO**
Big Cypress, FL *38-0*

5 **JUAN COGGI**
Argentina *47-2-2*

6 **CHARLES MURRAY**
Essex County, NJ *20-0*

7 **JOHN MEEKINS**
New York, NY *23-2-2*

8 **PAT BARRETT**
England *27-1-1*

9 **JOHN DUPLESSIS**
New Orleans, LA *34-1*

10 **ANGEL HERNANDEZ**
Puerto Rico *35-0-2*

BANTAMWEIGHTS

Weight limit: 118 pounds

1 **RAUL PEREZ**
Mexico *48-1-2 (WBC Champ)*

2 **ORLANDO CANIZALES**
Laredo, TX *27-1-1 (IBF Champ)*

3 **LUISITO ESPINOSA**
Philippines *25-5 (WBA Champ)*

4 **PEPILLO VALDEZ**
Mexico *37-3-1*

5 **ISRAEL CONTRERAS**
Venezuela *33-2-1*

6 **JAVIER LEON**
Mexico *34-2-2*

7 **GERARDO MARTINEZ**
San Jose, CA *24-1*

8 **GREG RICHARDSON**
Youngstown, OH *27-3*

9 **KIYOSHI HATANAKA**
Japan *21-1-1*

10 **BILLY HARDY**
England *24-5-1*

JR. BANTAMWEIGHTS

Weight limit: 115 pounds

1 **KHAOSAI GALAXY**
Thailand *46-1 (WBA Champ)*

2 **SUNG KIL MOON**
South Korea *13-1 (WBC Champ)*

3 **NANA KONADU**
Ghana *19-1-1*

4 **ROBERT QUIROGA**
San Antonio, TX *16-0 (IBF Champ)*

5 **KID AKEEM**
Las Vegas, NV *21-0*

6 **JOSE RUIZ**
Puerto Rico *19-2*

7 **JOHNNY TAPIA**
Albuquerque, NM *21-0-1*

8 **THALERNSAK SITHBAOBEY**
Thailand *32-2*

9 **DAVID GRIMAN**
Venezuela *10-0*

10 **REY PACIONES**
Philippines *29-2-3*

FLYWEIGHTS

Weight limit: 112 pounds

1 **SOT CHITALADA**
Thailand *23-2-1 (WBC Champ)*

2 **DAVE McAULEY**
Ireland *16-2-2 (IBF Champ)*

3 **LEOPARD TAMAKUMA**
Japan *27-4-1 (WBA Champ)*

4 **JUNG KOO CHANG**
South Korea *38-3*

5 **YUL WOO LEE**
South Korea *19-3*

6 **JESUS ROJAS**
Venezuela *20-2-2*

7 **RICHARD CLARKE**
Jamaica *23-3*

8 **RODOLFO BLANCO**
Colombia *25-6-1*

9 **YUN UN CHIN**
South Korea *22-0*

10 **JONATHAN PENALOSA**
Philippines *11-0*

POUND FOR POUND

Boxing's 10 Best Fighters, Pound For Pound

1 **JULIO CESAR CHAVEZ**
Junior Welterweight

2 **PERNELL WHITAKER**
Lightweight

3 **MICHAEL NUNN**
Middleweight

4 **ANTONIO ESPARRAGOZA**
Featherweight

5 **MELDRICK TAYLOR**
Welterweight

6 **EVANDER HOLYFIELD**
Heavyweight

7 **MIKE TYSON**
Heavyweight

8 **RAUL PEREZ**
Bantamweight

9 **YUH MYUNG WOO**
Light Flyweight

10 **KHAOSAI GALAXY**
Junior Bantamweight

KATZ SCAN

DON'T NEGLECT THE LITTLE GIANTS

By Michael Katz

So Julio Cesar Chavez ends up with ego on his face again. Unfortunately, it is Don King's ego, and this tends to smother fighters.

King likes to say he's the world's greatest promoter. This may have been true once upon a time, but King no longer promotes anyone but himself. This is an affliction shared by many of his peers. Lou Duva comes to mind, the way he crashes interviews with his fighters to helpfully point out how they couldn't have done it without him. In some squared circles, modesty is as alive as the dodo.

Thus it would be unfair to single out King, except who says life, or columns, have to be fair? Besides, many of his colleagues never knew any better. King did, which makes his behavior all the more sad.

Once upon a time, ideas burst from King's brain like his hair. There was his ill-fated U.S. boxing tournament. He did not plan it to be corrupt and rotton. It just went that way. But what an idea, and what brilliance, to hold fights on aircraft carriers and in his old prison home!

And what perspicacity, at a time when other promoters were still bellying up to ethnic rivalries, to recognize that Latin fighters were marketable to gringos. No one did more to bring Latins out of the barrios and into the mainstream of network television than did King. He built his "little giants" around such as Roberto Duran, Alexis Arguello, Esteban DeJesus, Wilfredo Gomez, Alfredo Escalera, Salvador Sanchez, Wilfred Benitez, and Edwin Rosario.

Which makes what he has done to Chavez all the sadder. Simply stated, Chavez has been the worst-promoted great fighter in recent years.

At this writing, he is 73-0 (63). He has been fighting since 1980. He has earned about $5-million while King was busy making more money for bigger men with less talent. King had become, in the words of former aide Bobby Goodman, "obsessed with heavyweights."

"He felt he could make more money with heavyweights than with the whole bunch of others fighters," said another King man, Duke Durden.

"He started basing his whole business on heavyweights," said Goodman, now running Madision Square Garden's boxing department, but who, with Durden, first brought Chavez to King's attention.

Chavez noted recently, "In the last year, my promoter has been paying more attention to someone else."

"It's Tyson, Tyson, Tyson," he complained another time.

Chavez has no quarrel with his buddy, Mike Tyson. In fact, he maintained even after Tyson's loss to Buster Douglas that the heavyweight was still the best fighter in the world. That, however, shouldn't make Chavez a preliminary fighter. But that's what

One of Don King's most valuable talents has been to smile, pat Julio Cesar Chavez on the back, and keep him under his promotional banner. "In the past year," Chavez has said, "[King] has been paying more attention to someone else."

King has done to the charismatic Mexican over the years. Chavez winds up in the small type: " . . . and in other bouts . . . "

Leon Pizante, the champion's Los Angeles-based lawyer, said "that was the last straw," referring to King's placement of Chavez' mandatory defense against Korean Kyung Duk Ahn beneath Tyson's non-title and noncombative workout against Alex Stewart.

But when it concerns King, Chavez lives in a house of straw. He is the prodigal son forever returning. Every winter, it seems, he bolts. Every winter, King leaves Tyson's side for a quick trip to Mexico and Chavez is back. This time, Pizante, and some other advisers who brought Chavez to rival promoter Bob Arum, tried hiding the fighter from King and Eddie Mafuz, King's 78-year-old longtime liason to Latin talent.

Mafuz called Chavez' wife, and before you can say Top Rank, King and "J.C. Superstar" were together again, pending the inevitable court decisions. Arum claimed he gave Chavez a $300,000 advance to sign with him when, he said, King's contract expires in April 1991. King claims Chavez has signed contracts *ad infinitum*. The judge might be tempted to give everyone the chair.

Leaving aside the merits, or demerits, of the contesting promoters, what is obvious is that Chavez has been too long neglected by King.

"Chavez should have made $25-million by now," said Arum.

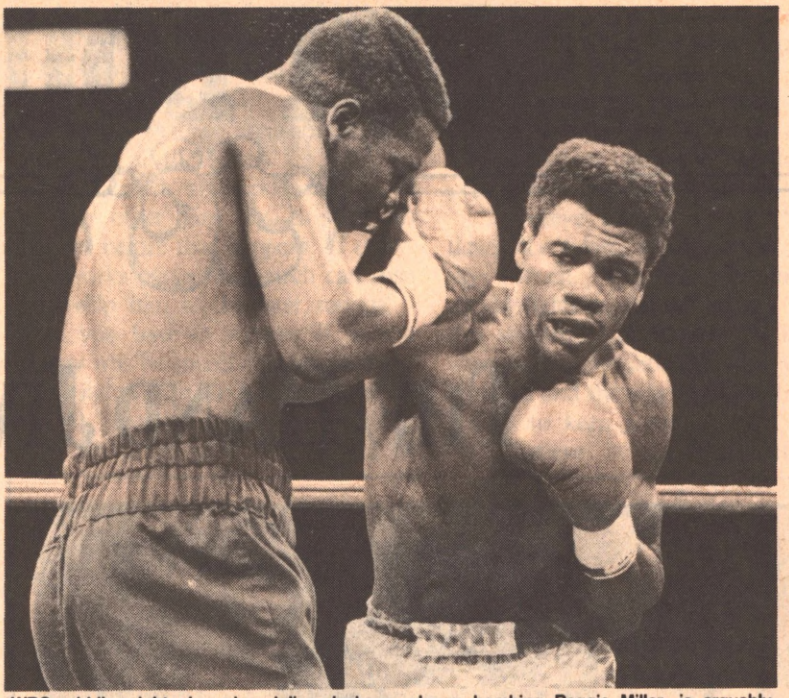
In fact, Arum's deal, which will start in May if allowed by the courts, will earn Chavez $35-million over three years. King has promised $30-million over the same time frame. Promises, promises.

"What is $5-million? Slave wages," said Mafuz.

It might be just that when you consider that Chavez' only million-dollar purse, for the stirring last-second comeback knockout of Meldrick Taylor, earned King a lot more. According to Arum, Chavez made $1.4-million, Taylor $1.2-million, the Duvas (Taylor's promoters) $400,000, and King close to $3-million.

"So what?" argued Mafuz. "Don is entitled to make money. He's a businessman. No one says anything when he loses money on a fight."

Mafuz points to Chavez' red ink 1986 appearance at Madison Square Garden against Juan LaPorte—on an undercard featuring Tim Witherspoon's one-round laydown against Bonecrusher Smith. He said the problem is that Chavez is virtually unknown in this country.



WBC middleweight champion Julian Jackson, shown bombing Reggie Miller, is arguably boxing's hardest hitter. But does the average fan know it? Jackson is promoted by King.

"I took him to the corner of 34th Street and Seventh Avenue [in Manhattan]," he said, "and we stood there for an hour and nobody recognized him. But a lot of people came up to me and said, 'How you doin', Eddie?' "

The fault, dear Eddie, is that your boss ain't doin' so good, not as a promoter, not when Julio Cesar Chavez, even then arguably the best fighter in the world, can pass for your nephew.

The King party line is that the problem is Chavez speaks little English. But Durden pointed out that two other non-heavyweights inadequately promoted by King *do* speak English.

Azumah Nelson, a two-division champion and one of the finest boxers of the last decade, wallowed in anonymity under King. Julian Jackson is now doing likewise.

There was an excellent case in point recently. Jackson, arguably the possessor of the singlemost powerful punch, pound for pound, in boxing, vacated the WBA junior middleweight title and moved up to meet Herol Graham for the vacant WBC middleweight crown.

The fight took place in Marbella, Spain, and was not televised here. (King's relationships with the major networks has deteriorated to such a point where he can do little for fighters until they are at the pay cable level, like HBO or Showtime.)

That did not mean that the fight should have gone unnoticed. But no attempt was made by King to arrange interviews with Jackson, either from his training camp or from Spain. No attempt was made to hype a fight that wasn't involving heavyweights. And when Jackson, behind on points, unleashed a hellacious right hand that knocked Graham cold—the Englishman had never been down before—there was no postfight publicity, either. That single punch would have had local TV sportscasters dying to scream, "Let's go to the videotape!" Jackson, a sweet and personable character, coulda been a contender for stardom, as well as a champion.

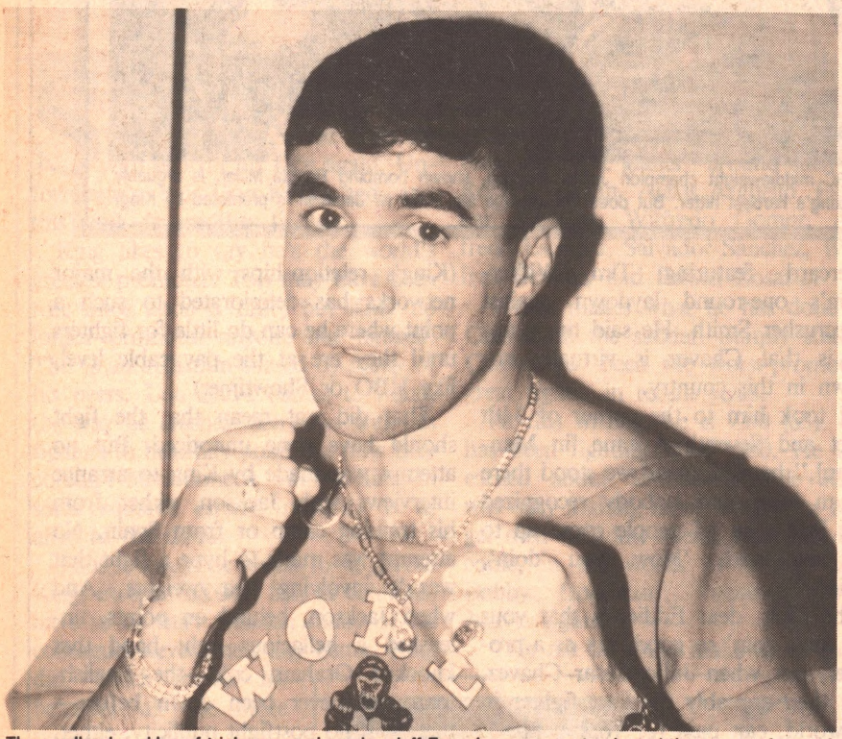
King was evidently too busy with Tyson. As boxing enters the age of pay-per-view, we need attractions, and we need all promoters, especially King, to remember that there are other divisions besides heavyweight.

Meanwhile, do not cry for Chavez. He knows what bed he's getting into again. He still has multimilion-dollar paydays ahead with the likes of Hector Camacho, Pernell Whitaker, and Taylor. Still, it's just too bad. He can run, but he can't hide from King. ■

RYAN

OUT LOUD

THE HAND JIVE



The swollen knuckles of triple-crown champion Jeff Fenech may prematurely end the career of one of boxing's most glorious gladiators. By hurting his opponents, Fenech only hurts himself.

By Jeff Ryan

It was one of the most compelling moments in the history of the Olympics, a stage that has consistently provided the most dramatic sports theater. It was 1976 in Montreal, and a Japanese gymnast named Shun Fujimoto was attempting a dismount from the set of rings. Viewers watching around the world could only guess what was going through his mind, because, we were told, Fujimoto was at that instant aware that he was competing with a fractured leg.

Whatever it was he was thinking, it had nothing to do with surrender. With a display of courage even those who saw it could not comprehend, he released his grip, flew through the air, and landed squarely on his feet. The fact that he'd been prepared for the agony that followed didn't matter. From deep inside him came a scream. His face contorted, his body trembled. He tried to put weight on his leg and couldn't. But he never fell. He willed himself to stay up—and he did.

No matter how many times I marvel at the U.S. hockey team's taming of the Russian Bear, or Franz Klammer's downhill, or the parallel perfection of Nadia Comaneci, that Japanese man with the broken leg and the unbreakable spirit will forever represent to me the human drama of athletic competition.

Listening to Jeff Fenech describe what life as a boxer means for him these days, to hear him speak of the personal endurance test he undergoes for weeks *before* a fight, for rounds that seem 20 minutes long *during* a fight, and for days *after* a fight, Shun Fujimoto immediately came to mind. Like Fujimoto, Fenech, a man who won three world titles faster than either Leonard, Hearns, or Duran, has also used rings to showcase his courage. Today, six years into his pro career, he stands as *boxing's* best example of the human drama of athletic competition.

Through 24 fights, he hasn't yet experienced the agony of defeat, but the agony of victory is forever present. Like Fujimoto on that rings routine that was anything but routine, the Aussie competes knowing that excruciating pain isn't just a possibility, but a guarantee.

Fenech, you see, was born with protruding knuckles on both of his hands, and is unable to make a true fist. Exacerbating the dilemma is the fact that his hands are extremely small ("Like a 10-year-old boy's," he says), yet they're expected to deliver the kind of powerpunches generated by one of the bulkiest upper bodies in the game.

"It's like getting an electric shock," Fenech told me when I asked him to describe the pain he feels during his fights. "The electric current drives through your arm and up your body. When my knuckle hits someone's head or elbow, it pushes back and I get the most terrible feeling of my life. Some-

times I urinate blood after I fight because my hands blow up and bleed so bad on the inside."

There have been few bouts during his three title reigns in which Fenech has not felt the pain. After breaking eight small bones in his right hand while kayoing Victor Callejas to win the vacant WBC featherweight crown in 1988, the street-hardened kid who used to go looking for Saturday night gangfights the way most teens look for a good movie, sat up all night in his hospital bed, crying like a child. He has undergone surgery five times. After breaking both hands against Marcos Villasana in 1989, he even retired for seven months.

"I had hoped the retirement would be a happy ending to his story," John Lewis, Fenech's trainer, told me last year. "But I knew the pain would eventually go, and he'd want a fourth title. A lot of guys are called born fighters, but Jeff really *is* a born fighter."

Fenech, nothing short of a god in his homeland, fought just twice in 1989, and not at all in 1990, but thoughts of a fourth, and even a *fifth,* title still tease him. As we went to press, he was preparing to meet WBC super featherweight king Azumah Nelson in March for crown number four. But while preparing for a tuneup against Johnny Kalbhenn, Fenech was again getting the signals he'd hoped he wouldn't receive, yet in the back of his mind surely must have expected.

He has become a victim of his own body, a stooge for the cruelest form of hand jive. His hands feel good for weeks, even months, and they start leading him to believe that he can do things the historians will cherish forever. He rattles the speedbag and sees Nelson wobbling. He fires punches in front of a mirror and sees Pernell Whitaker running to survive. Then he bounces a punch off a sparring partner's head and feels the pain all the way up to his shoulders.

"I can't spar every day anymore," he says. "I won't spar for two weeks leading up to a fight. I got injections so I could have a good, hard sparring session, and my hands felt good. Then I was getting very confident and I went a little overboard. I punched a sparring partner a little too hard and my hand swelled up twice the normal size."

By necessity, Fenech has been gradually altering his strategy. In the future, he says, he'll try to wear down an opponent by roughing him up, outmuscling him, and forcing him to work. All the while, Fenech will try to conserve his punches and protect his hands. He has become a gunfighter who knows that his six-shooter may jam before all the bullets are fired. So he has to duck and dodge and hope that the other guy has emptied his chamber before that happens. If everything works perfectly, Fenech can then pistol-whip him in the later rounds.

But you have to wonder if such a strategy will be successful, especially at junior lightweight and lightweight, 15 and 20 pounds over the weight at which he turned pro. Will he still be *Jeff Fenech,* the fighter whose determination and spirit, hand pain or not, has ground down the hearts of 24 opponents into chopmeat? Or will he be a power pitcher trying to get by with junk, a rifle-armed quarterback sidearming the ball?

Win or lose, just how much longer will he be able to stick it out? One day last year, I sat and talked about Fenech with Sugar Ray Leonard, a man plagued throughout his career by hand trouble, though not as severe as the Aussie's. What is it like to know that giving your best during a fight is only going to make you hurt that much more afterward, I asked him. He rubbed his own battered hands together and shook his head.

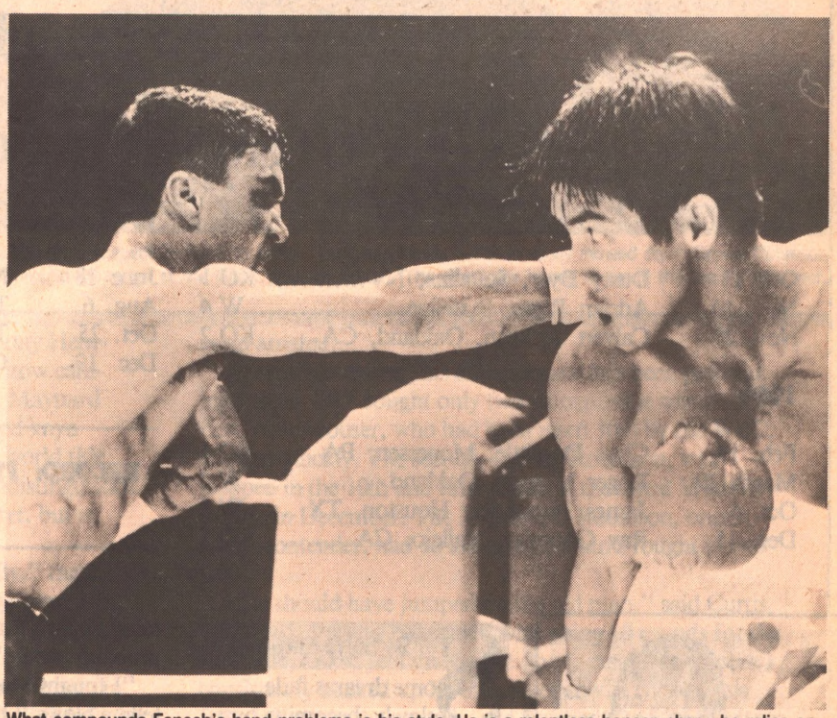
"Eventually, you say, 'Man, I'm tired of this,' " he told me. "It's *painful.* I got tired of cortisone shots and therapy. It's like an artist or a pianist without hands who is operating at 100 percent capacity. It's frustrating as hell. You really lose interest in fighting until your hands feel good again."

"I believe in the saying, 'Tough times don't last, tough people do,' " says Fenech. "I've been very lucky to get 24 fights so far out of my hands. I'm wealthy. I'm happy. So in that way, I'm quite satisfied with what I achieved and the way I achieved it. But I want to keep going.

"I believe in my inner-self, and that's always been tough enough to get me through. But if it gets to the point where the hands are bothering me so much that I start getting knocked around, I'll have to give it up."

It seems torturously unfair and more than a trace ironic that there are times when Jeff Fenech wants to punch a wall in frustration, but can't. If he does retire prematurely (and the prospect looms larger with each sparring session), if the fighter who has never taken a backward step is made to retreat and surrender not by a 130-pound bonebreaker but by a few tiny bones in his fists, at least he won't have to think about that any longer.

Quite a few Australians will punch their walls for him. ■



What compounds Fenech's hand problems is his style. He is a relentless bonecrusher who relies on volume punching to discourage his foes. Above, Samart Payakarun fell in four rounds in May 1987.

NEW
FACES

BOMANI PARKER
Light Heavyweight

PROFESSIONAL RECORD

1988

Oct. 13	Dusty Dyer, Stateline, NV	KO 1
Nov. 10	Adrian Riggs, Stateline	W 4
Nov. 29	Calvert Jackson, Oakland, CA	KO 2

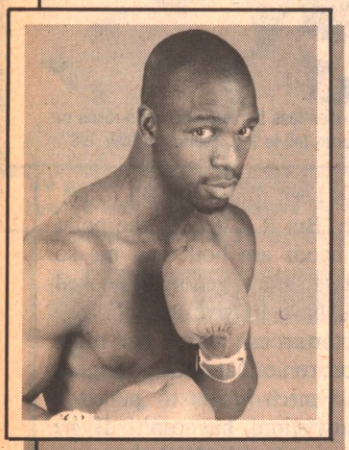
1989

Feb. 19	Chris Doolittle, Monessen, PA	KO 1
March 29	Roger Montue, Oakland	W 5
Oct. 5	James Fernandez, Houston, TX	W 6
Dec. 15	Ray Gonzalez, Vallejo, CA	KO 2

1990

June 18	Nate Houser, Inglewood, CA	KO 3
Aug. 6	Terry Verners, Inglewood	W 6
Oct. 25	Tony Orville, Vinton, LA	KO 1
Dec. 19	Grover Robinson, Inglewood	KO 10

RECORD:	FIGHTS	WON	LOST	DREW	KO
	11	11	0	0	7



By Steve Farhood

Some dreams fade slowly, becoming hazier and hazier until it's no longer clear what the dream was about. Others crash hard and splatter, leaving bitterness, frustration, and disappointment that remain not for a night or two, but a year or two, or sometimes a lifetime.

When the hand of his opponent, Al Cole, was raised after the final 178-pound match of the 1988 Olympic Trials, Bomani Parker's dream was over in an instant. As it would turn out, Andrew Maynard, and not Cole, would advance to the Games in Seoul, win a gold medal, and enjoy the spoils. Parker was left to console himself with the words of others.

"You'll make a better pro than both of them," he was assured.

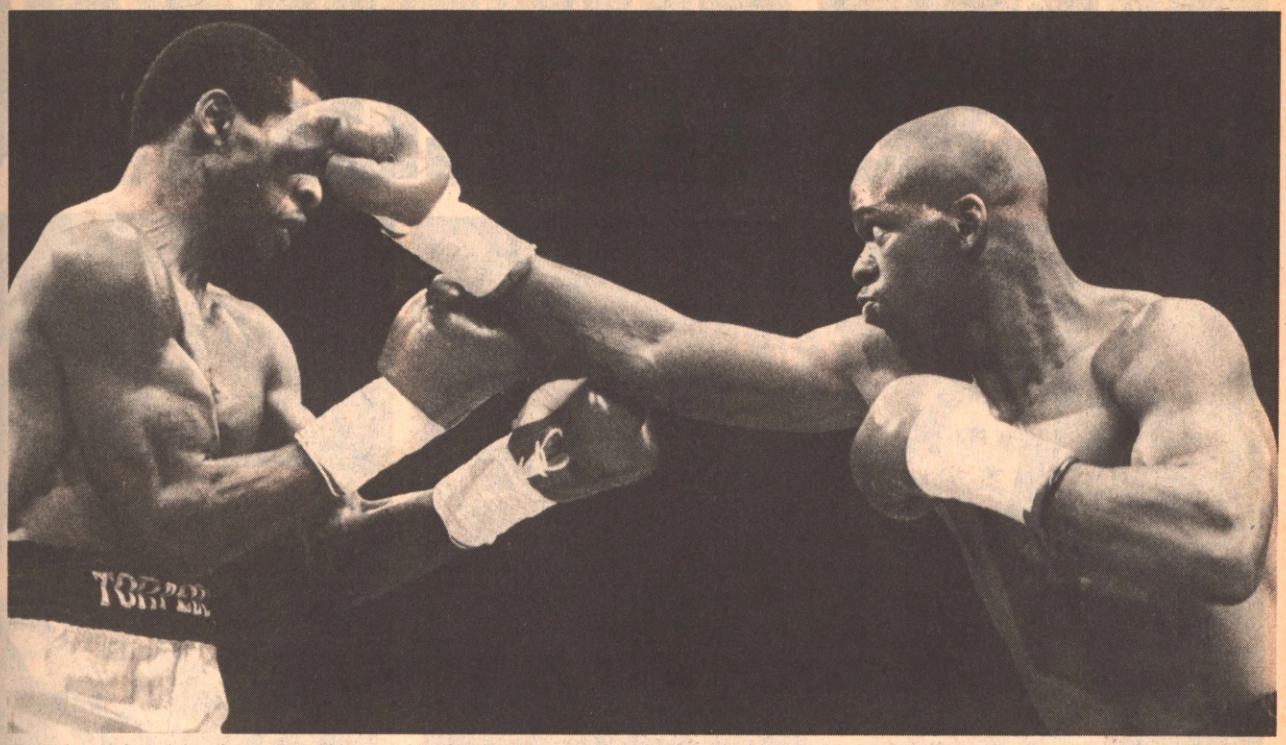
After Maynard signed with Sugar Ray Leonard and Cole joined the high-tech Triple Threat Team, Parker had to remind himself that had he fought his rivals as a pro, he probably would've beaten both of them.

"I fought Maynard twice, and I landed the harder, more telling blows," he said. "He just threw more punches. Against Cole in the Trials, we used big gloves. They were supposed to be 12 ounces, but they were probably 14. In international competition, where we used smaller gloves, I kayoed the Russian I fought."

Parker had excuses, but he found he also had supporters when a prominent manager visited him and placed a suitcase filled with $60,000 in cash on the kitchen table. Parker's mother, Joyce White, a drug counselor who has a master's degree in social welfare, was more interested in reading between the lines of the contract. As a result, Parker ended up turning pro with manager Bob Spagnola, who had sponsored him over the last 18 months of his amateur career.

Spagnola, who has handled three world champions (Frank Tate, Calvin Grove, and current IBF bantamweight king Orlando Canizales), isn't known for taking chances in matching his fighters.

"Bob Spagnola is afraid of his own shadow," said Tony Curtis, the matchmaker for the Great Western Forum, where Parker has fought thrice. "But a guy who is cautious is good for his fighter."



Parker is undefeated, but the quality of his opposition has been suspect. In his 11th battle, he started slowly but then easily mowed down Grover Robinson, who hadn't fought in two years. Parker scored a 10th-round stoppage at the Great Western Forum. The southpaw hopes to crack the top 10 this year.

The managers of Maynard, Cole, and Anthony Hembrick, the *cause celebre* of the '88 Games who now campaigns at 175 pounds, haven't been as careful. Maynard and Hembrick have suffered nationally televised kayo losses, and in December, Cole, approaching a world title shot at cruiserweight, was outpointed by an undistinguished clubfighter. Parker, meanwhile, remains a secret, but at least he's an undefeated secret.

"I'm still developing, physically and mentally," the 23-year-old southpaw said. "I feel those other guys were kind of being rushed, though they're older than me. Taking my time has done me a lot of good."

Spagnola first became aware of the light heavyweight in 1986, when Parker defeated Angel Espinosa in a USA-Cuba amateur meet in Sacramento.

"I follow the Cubans very closely, and Espinosa was a vicious killer; that's the only way he can be described," said Spagnola. "No American had ever beaten him, and he had kayoed Meldrick Taylor in the junior championships in Venezuela. Parker was just out of the juniors, and he beat the [crap] out of him. It showed me the kid had a lot of courage."

The kayo of Espinosa was one of several highlights of Parker's amateur career. He began boxing at age 10, when, after an argument during a ping pong game, he and a friend were placed in a boxing ring, as was the custom at the local boy's club. Parker won that battle and subsequently found himself picking fights so he could return to the ring.

"The coach said, 'You're wiping out all my kids,' " he recalled.

Finding more conventional reasons to box, Parker, whose real name is Parker White (in 1986, he adopted the name Bomani, which means warrior, to honor his African heritage), went on to win a Junior Olympics title and a National Golden Gloves middleweight crown. He was 207-18 as an amateur.

As a pro, however, his advancement has been painstakingly slow. He's fought only two recognizable names. The first, Nate Houser, who had been rated 30th by the WBC, crashed quickly. The second, Grover Robinson, was stopped in the 10th and final round at the Great Western Forum in December. The 35-year-old Robinson, once a fringe contender, had 16 losses, and hadn't fought in two years.

"He should have jumped on the old man," said Curtis.

Instead, Parker, concerned with going 10 rounds for the first time, boxed tentatively. He slowly escalated his attack, consistently backed up Robinson, opened a cut over his foe's left eye in the seventh, and finished him with a left uppercut and two straight lefts in the 10th.

"He was really thinking in the ring, though I felt he could have been busier," said Jesse Reid, Parker's trainer. "He's a very strong young man with a lot of power, and he has great fundamentals. He just has to learn to relax more."

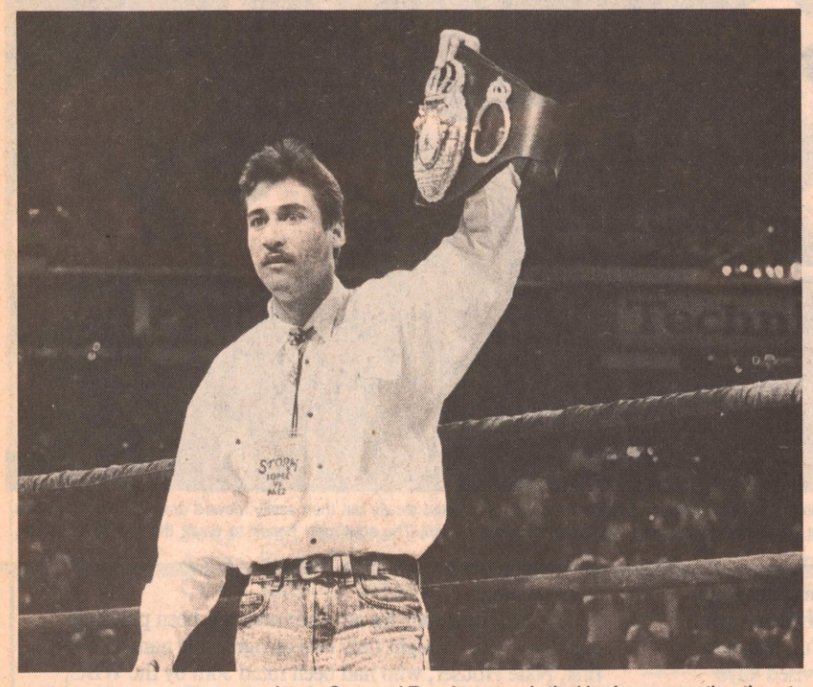
"He's a main-event fighter now," said Spagnola, who indicated that Parker would be ready for his first top-10 opponent sometime later this year. "He needs another good 10-round fight before he fights a David Vedder, or someone who would extend him."

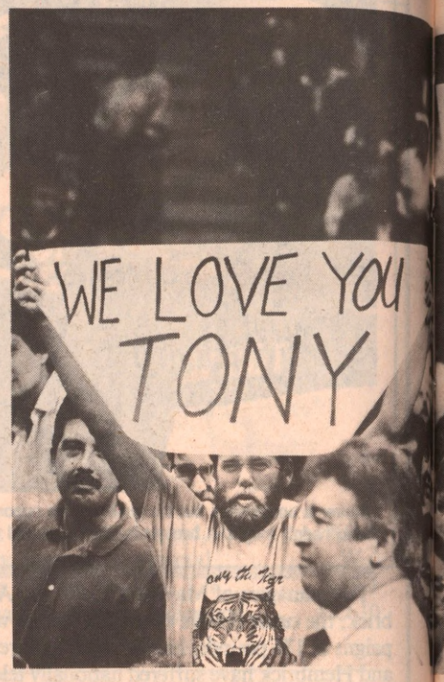
As he advances in measured steps, Parker has long since forgotten that his dream of Olympic glory died an inglorious death. That's because he has a new dream. Every fighter, he acknowledges, fantasizes about winning a world title. But what he envisions is not the kayo of the defending champion, or the cheers of the crowd, or the cars and clothes and jewelry. All Parker thinks about is buying a big house for his mother, who raised five children by herself and taught each one about self-pride.

One unrealized dream, he figures, is enough for anyone's lifetime. ■

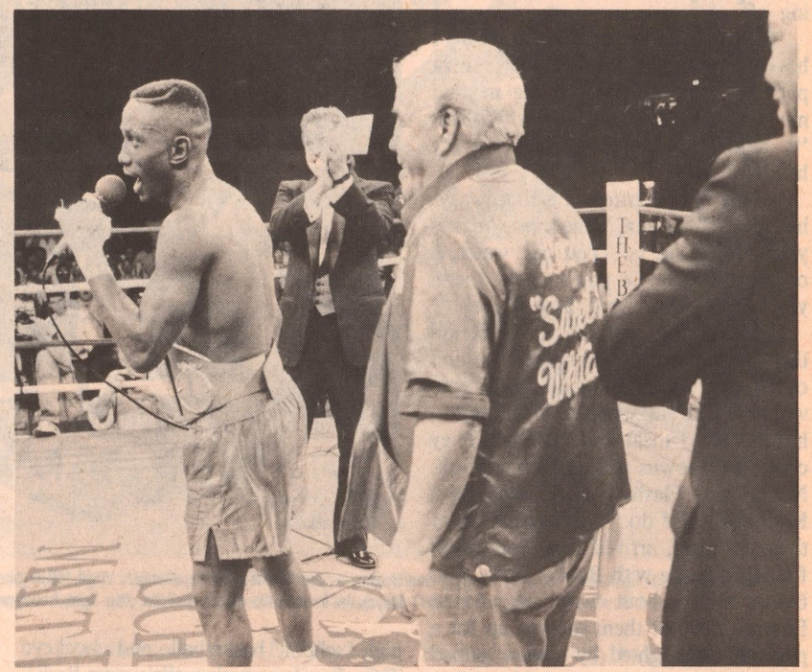
For Six Singular Sensations . . .

THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME





Loreto Garza and Tony Lopez are bathed in cheers every time they step into the ring in Sacramento. Win or lose, their fans turn out to give them total support. Both are world champions.



Pernell Whitaker talks to his supporters after every fight and thanks them for coming out and giving him plenty of support. "His popularity crosses economic lines and racial lines," says Kathy Duva.

By Jeff Ryan

Forget about the Boston Celtics shamrockin' down the parquet floor, the Miami Hurricanes squeezing the pulp out of some patsy in the Orange Bowl, or the Buffalo Bills performing cryosurgery on any team nuts enough to show up in Rich Stadium without battery-powered longjohns. The greatest hometurf advantage in American sports belongs to a half-dozen fighters who turn their opponents into road worriers, their fans into raving lunatics, and their homecomings into the most regaling spectacles in the game.

Pernell Whitaker, Tony Lopez, Loreto Garza, Virgil Hill, Vinny Pazienza, and Joey Gamache are six hometown sensations you'd much rather meet in a dark alley than in their favorite well-lit arenas. These homebodies have fought 99 of their combined 177 career bouts on familiar turf, compiling a can't-touch-this record of 95-3-1 (63), and winning versions of four world titles. Yes, home is where they hang their W's.

Their stories are as diverse as their styles. Two of them are harder to lure away from home than an agoraphobic. Others return home like the prodigal son only occasionally, feast on some fattened calf, and then take the show out of town until Homecoming Day is scheduled again. All fight in their backyard, figuratively, but one fights in his frontyard, *literally*. One calls his home field "The Devil's Den," but all wage war in places that are absolute hell for the opponent. Some are nobodies outside their zip code. Others are somebodies everywhere. All make *pronebodies* of just about everyone who steps on their turf.

Their fans range from the prototypical white picket fence crowd of America's heartland to a gang of bikers who ride Harleys to the arena and get embroiled in wilder fights than their hero. The arenas themselves are an odd assortment, ranging from one resembling a giant flying saucer to another that's a glorified high school gym. One constitutes a vital part of its city's skyline. Another sits alone in the middle of a tomato farm.

Be it ever so humbling to their opponents, for Whitaker, Lopez, Garza, Hill, Pazienza, and Gamache, there's no place like home.

A TRUE (NOR)FOLK HERO

As kids growing up in the Young Park housing project in Norfolk, Virginia, Pernell Whitaker and his buddies didn't have to look very far for their entertainment. Across the street, looming like a spaceship from *Close Encounters Of The Third Kind,* was the 11,000-seat Scope. Dropping into the neighborhood on a regular basis were the likes of Gladys Knight & The Pips, Patti LaBelle, The O'Jays, Mr. Wrestling II, and Julius Erving and the ABA's Virginia Squires.

Not a bad candy store for the kids in Young Park, especially the ones like Pernell, who had their own way of dealing with hard-to-get tickets and scalpers' prices.

"Sometimes we'd sneak in," he says, chuckling. "How'd we do it? I can't release that secret. Guys are still there doin' it the same way."

Whitaker still has to sneak into Scope these days, but now it's to avoid being mobbed by fans who are there to see *him.* And whenever "Sweet Pea," the undisputed lightweight king, has returned to his pod—Norfolk and nearby Virginia Beach and Hampton—he has turned in his best work. He's Scoped Roger Mayweather, Miguel Santana, and Louie Lomeli. After being fleeced by the judges when he faced Jose Luis Ramirez in Paris in 1988, Whitaker begged for the chance to get Ramirez in Norfolk. He did, the following year, and scored a shutout.

On the day Whitaker challenged tough guy Greg Haugen for the IBF lightweight crown, a blizzard hit Hampton. "I hope it snows all day and only five people show up," Haugen said. Unfortunately for him, 5,702 Pea-rooters trudged through 12 inches of snow to the Coliseum to cheer on the challenger. Clearly inspired, Whitaker tossed a shutout (the guy has more to his credit than Roger Clemens), flooring Haugen for the first time in his career. Nobody was sorry he came.

"Pete appeals to a wide cross-section of people," says Kathy Duva, a publicist for Main Events, Whitaker's promotional firm. "His popularity crosses economic lines and racial lines. He's also in an area heavily laden with military people, and he's a national hero, an Olympic champion. I think that adds to it a lot."

"In basketball they say the crowd is the sixth man, and in football it's the 12th man," Whitaker says. "When I'm at home, it's like the fight is two against one. The crowd plays a big part. No matter who I'm up against, they always give me a big kick and make me fight a little harder."

If Virginians show their appreciation for Whitaker by turning out for his fights, he returns the favor by turning out for just about everything. He does work throughout the state for the "Just Say Not To Drugs" campaign, speaks to a variety of organizations, and visits numerous children's hospitals, boys clubs, and high schools.

"He never says no to anyone who calls," says Duva.

The big question on the minds of Whitaker fans right now is how often they'll get to see their hero at home in the future. Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus—Las Vegas casinos that are willing to offer handsome site fees for bouts with the likes of Julio Cesar Chavez and Hector Camacho. But don't fret, Virginians. Main Events has hinted that Whitaker's smaller fights are still likely to take place on his home turf.

After all, as Sweet Pea Whitaker, the man who got married in a boxing ring in Virginia Beach before a few thousand of his closest friends, will tell you, Virginia is for lovers, not leavers.

THE BATTLES OF HILL'S BUNKER

Before Virgil Hill captured the WBA light heavyweight crown in September 1987, Bismarck, North Dakota, was best known as the home of the Raccoon National Cemetery, the anticipated final resting place for Ralph Kramden and the boys at his Brooklyn lodge. In the last 3½ years, however, it has become best known as a graveyard for the world's 175-pounders.

Native son Hill has fought nine of his last 10 battles in Bismarck, defend-

ing the crown eight times and scoring a stoppage in a non-title fight. To get an idea of the cumulative noise factor from those fights, staged before sellout and near-sellout crowds at the 8,500-seat Bismarck Civic Center, imagine an an Aerosmith concert held on an airport runway while the Concorde is taking off.

"Bismarck is the only place where I haven't been able to hear [broadcast partner] Dan Dierdorf talking next to me," says ABC analyst Alex Wallau. "I couldn't even hear him in my headphones."

"When Virgil enters the ring," says his mother, Leona, "the noise makes your hair stand up. You can watch it on TV, but unless you're right there, you can't comprehend how it feels."

Hill's fans are just like you'd picture them: down-home, friendly, the kind of people, the champion says, "who would invite a stranger over for a home-cooked meal and a beer." They come from towns named Donnybrook, Nome, and Flasher. They wear "KO Kerchiefs" and do The Wave. Two of them, farmers, arrived in a crop-duster for Hill's battle with Bobby Czyz. And before Hill's bout with Jean-Marie Emebe, 3,000 of them showed up for a pep rally highlighted by a man named "The Dakota Rambler" singing "The Ballad Of Virgil Hill."

"Everyone there loves Virgil," says Michael Moorer, a light heavyweight contender who has made no secret of his dislike for the champion. "I went to one of his fights, and when everyone was cheering, I even got up and clapped for him. The audience makes you want to do that. I wanted to join in the festivities because it was so much fun."

"It's a state fair atmosphere," adds Wallau. "The fight is almost like an afterthought. The people get just as much of a charge out of being there and having this collective community experience."

There are theories as to why Hill is so loved by the homefolk: 1) Having fought four Bismarck bouts on ABC, he is a national symbol for North Dakota; 2) Like Vinny Pazienza, he is his state's only franchise; 3) He is an extremely likable guy. While all three contribute to his popularity, though, Hill thinks he has a better answer.

"I don't think it's *my* appeal, particularly," he says. "It's just something in the character of the people in the state. North Dakota people are just very supportive of all athletes. They come out in droves for college and high school basketball and hockey. They love supporting their own."

Boxing at the Bismarck Civic Center, Virgil Hill is cheered wildly, even when he misses (against Bobby Czyz). In low-profile North Dakota, the light heavyweight champion is cherished as a state symbol.

That they still support Hill, who hasn't been one of their own for a few years now, is a testament to their loyalty. Realizing that he needs to be in a boxing hotbed to further his career, Hill lives full-time in Las Vegas. He still returns to Bismarck to fight, and stays in North Dakota afterward to hunt and fish, but he's usually not in the state for more than a few weeks a year.

Like Whitaker, Hill will be seeing his name in neon more often. He'll meet Thomas Hearns in Las Vegas in May, and a win would likely bump him into the $1-million-minimum-per-fight club. That's the kind of money ABC can't afford to pay, and that greatly hampers the chance of a Hill title fight landing in Bismarck again.

"In my last fight [a decision over Mike Peak in January], the crowd was louder than I've ever heard it," says Hill, reflectively. "It was deafening. I hope to be back to fight there, and they hope so, too. But just in case I'm not, I think that was their way of sending me off."

BY DIVINE PROVIDENCE

There are two dates that will forever be imbedded in the memory of Rhode Islanders. In 1636, Roger Williams founded the state. In 1986, the state founded Vinny Pazienza.

It was a bitter cold February night, and "The Pazmanian Devil," a streaking lightweight with a record of 17-1, was fighting at home for the first time as a pro. The opponent was Joe Frazier Jr., and in the weeks before the bout, the colorful Paz had been creating static on the local TV airwaves in Providence, giving the audience a taste of the boast-and-boast that would eventually become his trademark from coast to coast.

"I was hyping the fight like crazy," Pazienza recalls. "I had the press in my house, in my gym. I got in front of the camera and let loose. I had to. Joe Frazier Jr. couldn't put two syllables together."

On fight night, 13,228 fans jammed the Providence Civic Center (since nicknamed "The Devil's Den"), and over 2,000 more were turned away. Paz, who entered the ring in a robe decorated with dozens of tiny flashing lights, scored a seventh-round kayo, the crowd lost its collective mind, and the phenomenon of "Pazmania" was born.

"It was an electric atmosphere that night," says Kathy Duva, Paz' publicist. "It was comparable to any major

Vinny Pazienza's fan club doesn't stop at ticket-buying adults. Paz has a large following among Rhode Island's youth as well. Like Virgil Hill in North Dakota, Pazienza views himself as a role model throughout his home state. The Providence Civic Center has been nicknamed "The Devil's Den."

fight I've been to, including the first Leonard-Hearns fight."

What is it about Pazienza that gives him his star power? To hear him tell it, it's a simple matter of supply and demand.

"It's not the *Rhode Island* Celtics or the *Rhode Island* Red Sox," he says. "When you say to someone in Rhode Island, 'What major sports do you have?' they answer, 'Vinny Paz.' I'm their franchise, and my fights are their Super Bowl."

What separates the relationship between Paz and his Pazmaniacs from the fighter-crowd relationships in other cities is the way that the two interact during a bout. If the crowd demands antics, shtick-and-move artist Paz will do an Ali Shuffle, throw bolo punches, taunt his opponent, or bounce off the ropes like a human pinball. If Paz wants to hear more noise, he's not bashful about signaling with a glove to the ear or a wave of the hand. And the Den denizens aren't shy about delivering.

If Virgil Hill's fights have the atmosphere of a state fair, then Pazienza's outings are like a trip to the circus. After a frightened-looking Robert Elizondo walked to the ring amid an incredible chorus of boos, and the sequin-studded stud Pazienza was greeted by a tumultuous roar, NBC's Marv Albert quipped to partner Ferdie Pacheco, "You get the feeling Elizondo is like the Washington Generals, don't you?"

Maybe the intimidating aura of The Devil's Den can best be measured by who wouldn't fight there, namely Hector Camacho and Ras-I (Livingstone) Bramble. Though both would have been heavily favored over Paz wherever they fought, both Camacho and Bramble looked over the offer of a fight in Providence and came to the same conclusion: We're outta here.

They may have been the smart ones. Though Greg Haugen appeared to have whipped Paz in their 1987 Civic Center meeting, Paz was awarded the unanimous decision and the IBF lightweight crown. Only the most naive observers would think that the rabid crowd, which let out a building-shaking roar even when Paz missed punches by a foot, didn't have an effect on the judges.

Though he was badly cut in a loss to Loreto Garza in December, Paz was squashing retirement rumors in January and promising a return to action by May. And while he may have lost more big fights than he's won over the past three years, he remains incredibly popular at home. Nearing the end of his career, he says, hasn't dimmed his star one bit.

"Let me put it this way," he says. "If me and President Bush were walking down any street in Rhode Island, people would stop and say, "Hey, look, it's Vinny Paz. How ya doin'?"

THE MAINE EVENT

The face was familiar throughout all of Maine, but this time, it looked a lot different. "Hi, I'm Joey Gamache," said the kid with the neck brace and the cuts around his eye. "I lost a title fight because I didn't wear a seatbelt. I was lucky. I could have lost my life."

The sight of Gamache, an unbeaten junior lightweight from Lewiston, Maine, doing a TV commercial is nothing new. But this one was particularly noteworthy because it came after Gamache was banged around in a car accident last July, a mishap that cost him a scheduled title fight with WBA champion Brian Mitchell in September.

The bout was supposed to be Gamache's shining moment, a chance for him to bring attention to his home state, one of the nation's most beautiful, but most overlooked. "I want everyone to know what Maine is all about," says Gamache. "I want the networks to come here and show everyone."

"Joey's real proud of where he's from, and the people appreciate that," says the fighter's promoter, Johnny Bos. "He's got a lot of charisma. Lewiston is a tough city, very depressed. But the kid rents an apartment in town and walks the streets with the people. He does a lot of charity work, and he talks to everyone and lets them know he's one of them. This is a place where they're looking for a hero."

"I'm intelligent, I can talk, I'm marketable, I look good, and I've got curly hair," Gamache explains. Did he forget modest, too?

Most of Gamache's fights are held in Lewiston's Central Maine Youth Center, a glorified gymnasium. If the name sounds familiar, it's because it was the site of the second Muhammad Ali-Sonny Liston clash, in 1964. That fight, for the heavyweight championship of the world, drew only 3,500 people. For his January 1990 win over Irving Mitchell, Gamache drew 4,000.

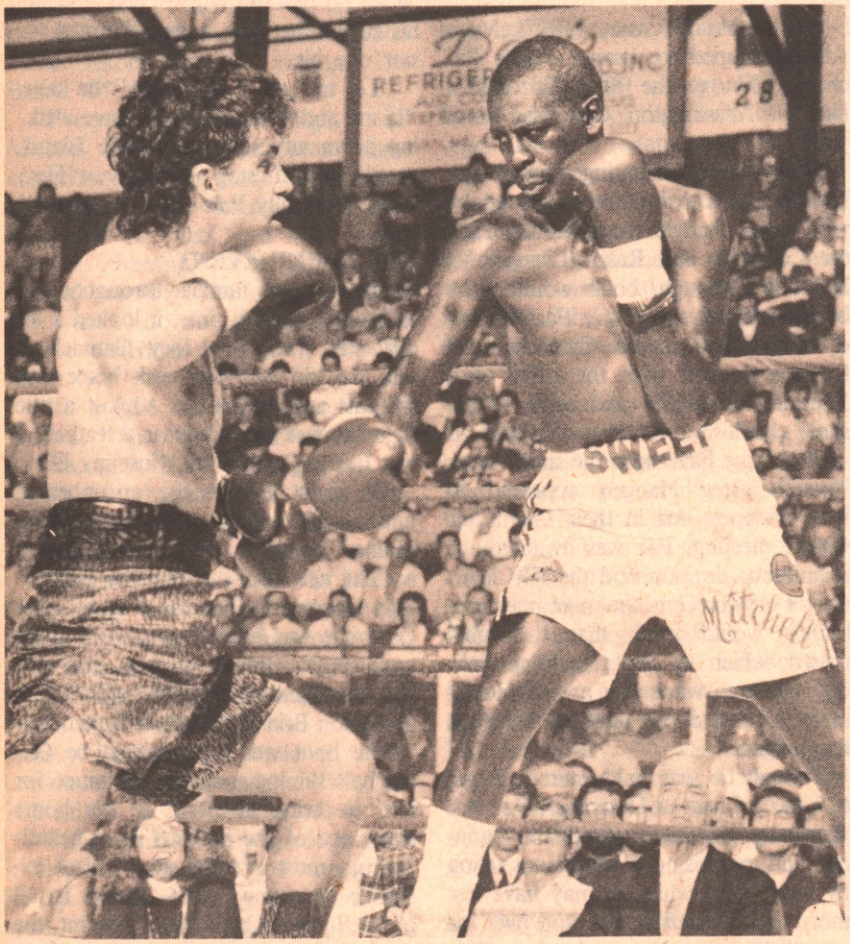
The crowd often includes Gamache's biker friends from a Lewiston bar called The Carlton Club. They ride their Harleys to the fight, cheer on Gamache, then often brawl in the crowd afterward. Hey, it's all just part of the fun.

"Lewiston is not a great fight town," says Bos. "I put a world title fight up there [Manning Galloway-Nika Khumalo for the WBO welterweight crown] and drew 200 people. And the tickets were only $12 and $15. I needed $7,000 to break even and did only $3,000. Joey is very special. I hope that when I get him a title shot, I can put it in Lewiston."

And hopefully, he can convince Gamache to do a lot more walking of the streets and a lot less driving on them.

THE SACRAMENTO KINGS

Loreto Garza's idea of a fashion statement is having his last name sewn onto his trunks. Tony "The Tiger" Lopez dresses for work in a tiger-striped robe and $750 leopard-skin boots. Garza's favorite book is the Bible, Lopez' is a little black number containing the phone numbers of some of the finest tomatoes Sacramento, California, has ever produced. Garza is married and has a child. Lopez is unmarried and likes to act like a child. Garza says his idol is Roberto Duran. Lopez says his is Bart Simpson.



Irving Mitchell learned first-hand what it's like to fight in Gamache's hometown. The only time Gamache has been stopped in Lewiston was when he was injured in a car accident last year.

Lopez, the IBF junior lightweight champion, and Garza, the WBA junior welterweight titlist, are about as different as two fighters can be. But these opposites attract—enthusiastic crowds, that is.

"We have only 11 licensed boxers in the whole city of Sacramento," says Don Chargin, the promoter of both Lopez and Garza. "To have two of them be world champions who are incredibly popular is a big thrill for me. It's a promoter's dream."

When Lopez decisioned Jorge Paez in September, 15,008 fans poured into the Arco Arena, a 17,014-seat architectural oddity located in the middle of a tomato farm off Interstate 5. The live gate, $601,000, broke the state record set by Muhammad Ali-Ken Norton II in 1973. Though Garza's crowds have been in the more modest 7,000-range, like Lopez, he has an ever-growing legion of supporters. When he returned from France after beating Juan Coggi for the title last August, Garza was greeted by 400 banner-waving fans at the Sacramento airport.

But it wasn't always this good. Chargin remembers Lopez and Garza co-headlining cards five years ago and attracting only 800 people. That all changed in 1988, when Lopez scored an upset kayo of Tony Pep on March 25, and Garza stiffened former IBF lightweight king Harry Arroyo on April 22.

"I had promoted Carlos Palomino and Mando Ramos in Los Angeles, and through the years I noticed that you can feel when someone has arrived," explains Chargin. "I sensed that, particularly in Tony's case. When Tony knocked out Pep, I got that same feeling. People didn't want to leave the arena. I said to myself, 'A star is born.' "

Unlike in other markets, the appeal of Lopez and Garza doesn't stem from the fact that they're the only game in town. The *other* Sacramento Kings, quite possibly the NBA's worst franchise, have sold out the 17,014-seat Arco Arena and its 10,333-seat predecessor for every game since they moved to town from Kansas City for the 1985-86 season. In January, that streak stood at 235 and counting.

"The Kings draw basketball fans, but there are a lot of people who go there for a social event," points out Walt Gray, the sports director for Sacramento's KCRA-TV. "The people at the Lopez and Garza fights are knowledgeable, hard-core fans. They're there on business.

When you're the toast of the town like Garza (above), you'll sign autographs for anyone. And like Whitaker (below), you might even exchange wedding vows in front of your fans. That's appreciation.

"A lot of their popularity also comes from being world champions. Sacramento is a town searching for its own identity away from the Bay Area, and everybody loves to identify with a world champion. Tony, particularly, is carrying the Sacramento sports flag nationally. The Kings personnel always changes, but for the past five years, Tony has been a constant on the Sacramento sports scene."

Not to mention the Sacramento nightclub scene, as well. Lopez' enormous popularity with the ladies accounts for much of his mainstream appeal, while, Chargin points out, Garza is primarily appealing to the diehard fan. Their fights can really incite a crowd. Once in a while, even a riot.

When a battered Lopez was halted by John-John Molina in 1989, fans who objected to the timing of the stoppage created a real *brew*-haha, bombarding the ring, and the Molina camp, with beer and ice. Of all the diehards who turn out to support their heroes, Sacramento fans may be the most hostile toward the out-of-towner.

There are so many unwelcome wagons driving around town that they can hold a tailgate party in the parking lot. The crowd can be surly and abusive, often the result of their pre-arrival warmup, when they cut down more long neck bottles of beer than does a fullback in the Bud Bowl.

Pazienza, who lost to Garza at Arco in December, puts it bluntly: "They're rude, low-class, rotten people."

To Lopez, who has fought 30 of his 38 bouts at home, and Garza, who has fought all but four of his 29 battles in Sacramento, though, there's no place like home.

"I'm a world champion, so I'll fight anywhere in the world," says Garza. "but I really would like to fight all the time here."

"I'm not gonna leave Sacramento," adds Lopez. "I'll never fight in one of those Atlantic City casinos. People there don't yell, 'Take his head off,' they act like they're at the ballet. If I fought there, I'd have to stop in the middle of a punch, lean over the ropes, and ask them, 'Not a good enough fight for you, or what?'

"You know," he says, laughing, "I think they should just bring in a bed for me at Arco, and I'd never have to leave."

In Sacramento, they'd surely be glad to do just that. And there'd no doubt be more than a few volunteers willing to share it with him. ■

BATTLE OF THE LEGENDS

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS

Matthew Saad Muhammad

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Career: 1974-Present
38-11-3 with 28 kayos

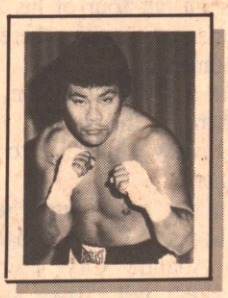
Abandoned on the streets of Philadelphia as an infant, Saad's remarkable story is the stuff of Hollywood movies. A classic boxer, the former Matthew Franklin turned slugger and became one of the most exciting and popular champions of the '80s.

Saad earned his title try the old-fashioned way—by facing a slew of big-name contenders like Harold Carter, Mate Parlov, Eddie Gregory, Marvin Camel, Marvin Johnson, Richie Kates, and Yaqui Lopez. In April 1979, he was rewarded with a title try, and in one of fights of the year, he rallied to stop WBC champion Johnson in the eighth round.

Saad made eight successful defenses, often bleeding and absorbing incredible punishment before scoring a come-from-behind kayo. In December 1981, however, Saad was dethroned by Dwight Qawi. He lost the rematch as well, and has since stumbled on, fighting infrequently while seeking to regain the skills that have long since faded.

Victor Galindez

Buenos Aires, Argentina
Career: 1969-1980
55-9-4 with 34 kayos



A 5'10" bull, Galindez survived three local rivalries (he fought Juan Aguilar nine times, Avenamar Peralta six times, and Jorge Ahumada five times) and engaged in 46 bouts before challenging for a world title. Finally given an opportunity, he won the vacant WBA title with a 13th-round stoppage of Len Hutchins in December 1974.

Ten successful defenses followed, including controversial and blood-stained victories over Pierre Fourie, Yaqui Lopez, and Richie Kates. Seemingly vulnerable, the champion relied on conditioning, physical strength, and superb counterpunching technique. But in September 1978, Mike Rossman shocked the Argentine and took the crown via 13th-round TKO. Seven months later, a faded Galindez won the rematch, but his second reign was a short one; in his next fight he was stopped by Marvin Johnson.

Galindez fought only once more and then retired. On October 26, 1980, at the age of 31, he was killed in an auto racing accident in his homeland.

Fight fans will forever debate the merits of champions who never met in the ring. In "Battle Of The Legends," the editors of THE RING play matchmaker and pit two of the all-time greats against each other. Three experts serve as judges. If there are particular dream matches that you'd like to see featured, please write to us.

During his title defense against Yaqui Lopez, Saad Muhammad proved that he could accept incredible amounts of punishment without wilting.

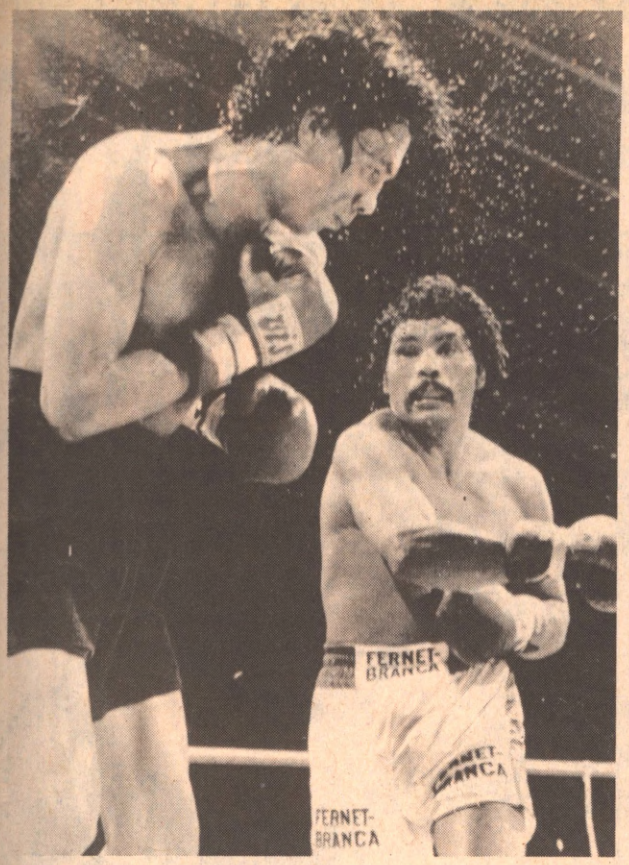
EDDIE MUSTAFA MUHAMMAD

First I'd like to say that it was an honor to be in the ring with both of these great champions. Both brought out the best in me, as they did in all of their opponents. Saad had a great resiliency; he could take punishment and come back from the brink of defeat. Galindez had that same gutty grit and determination. He was a great puncher, and a very tough guy. You would really have to take it to him. He wouldn't give you anything. It was a you-kill-me-or-I'll-kill-you attitude. And that attitude made for great shootouts.

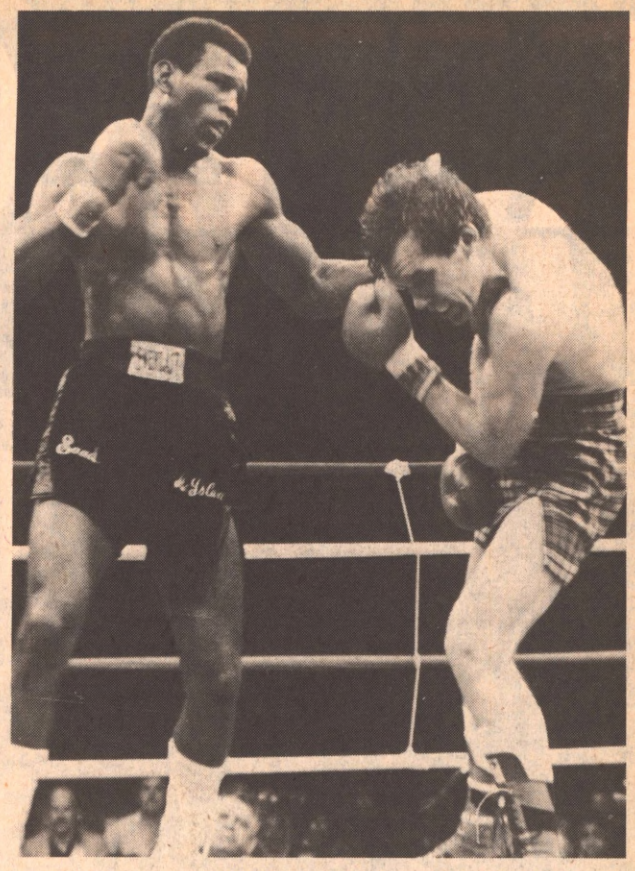
Saad had the ability to adapt to styles. Early in his career he was a better boxer. Galindez would try to be an aggressive counterpuncher. Saad would abandon a boxing style and go right at him.

Like with all of Saad's fights, I see Galindez catching him with a lot of punches. Saad took a lot of punishiment, and he'd get cut. I think Galindez would do well early, but, because he would have had problems making the weight, Saad would start to come on in the 11th round and turn the tide. There was no quit in either guy, but I think Saad would come on and stop Galindez in the 15th round of a very exciting fight.

Eddie Mustafa Muhammad is a former WBA light heavyweight champion. In March 1977, he outpointed Saad Muhammad. Eight months later, he was decisioned by then-WBA champion Galindez.



Like Saad Muhammad, Galindez held two victories over Yaqui Lopez. While Saad twice stopped the Californian, Galindez won twice by decision.

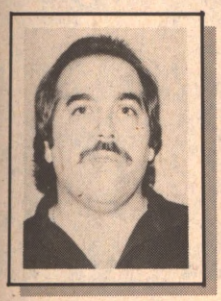


Typical of Saad's title defenses was his ninth-round kayo of Murray Sutherland in April 1981. After eight rounds, Saad was behind on points.

RON KATZ

This is a great fight, a great matchup. It's the kind of fight that could've taken place in any era, a total shootout, an all-out, kick-ass fight. There would be very little to choose between the two, assuming, of course, that cuts were not a deciding factor, because I'm sure that both would bleed.

Both light heavyweights had a terrific arsenal of punches. Galindez was super tough. He was a superb bodypuncher with a great chin. Nobody ever hurt him—I think the Rossman loss was a fluke. Saad could punch with either hand, in combination, and like Galindez was always in fantastic condition. But he caught too many punches.



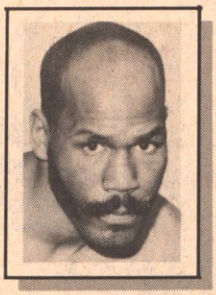
Galindez would concentrate on the body, because he'd know that he wasn't going to hurt Saad to the head. Saad would go in trying to overpower and outhustle Galindez. Both would feel they would be in for the duration.

It would be a battle of wills, with 80-100 punches per round thrown by each, and more than half those punches landing. There wouldn't be much strategy. Galindez was a lot better defensively, and he had the better chin. Galindez by late-round TKO.

Ron Katz is a matchmaker for Top Rank.

MARVIN JOHNSON

Galindez was the smartest fighter I ever fought. He was very sneaky. He was right there in your face, and he made you think he was on defense when he was waiting to counterpunch. You couldn't see the punches when he struck. He was also good defensively, giving a target and then letting the punches slide off his shoulders or rolling with them. And, at least when I fought him, he was in great condition.

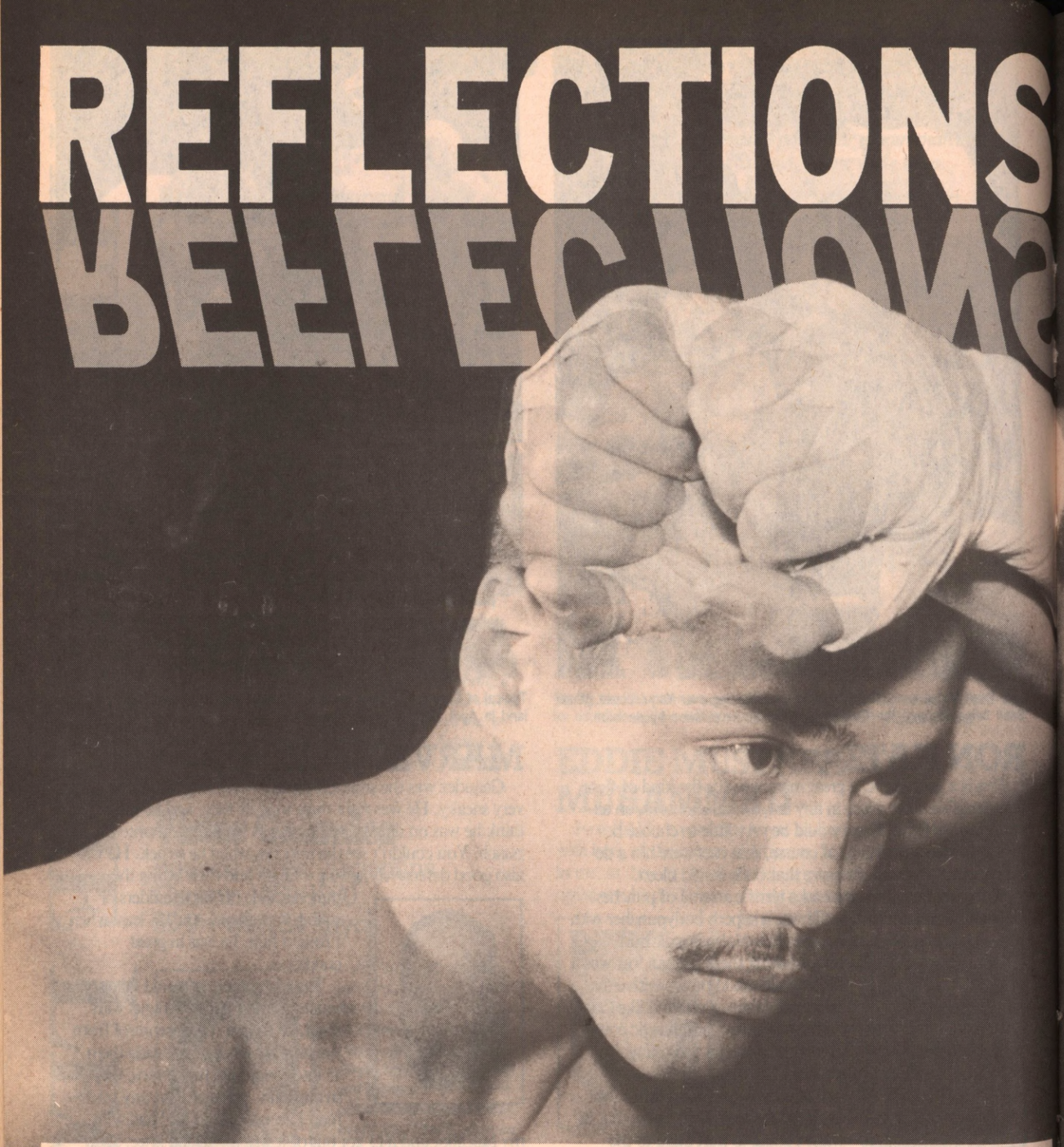


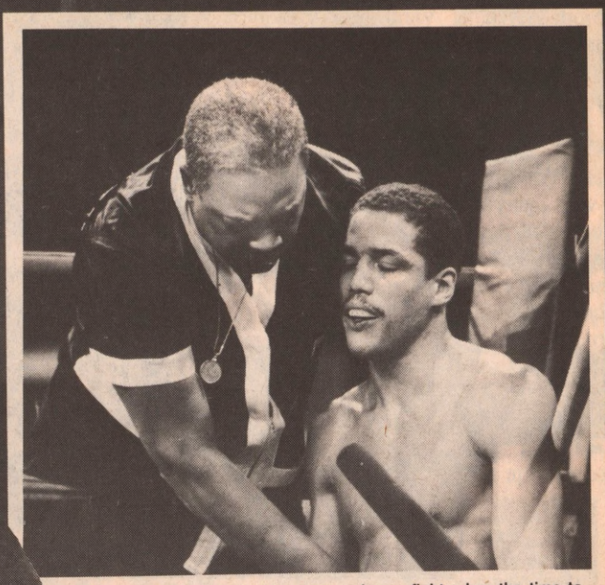
Saad Muhammad could take so much punishment. My fights with Saad, he fought me for control from the start, which is what made them so interesting. He had a very, very strong chin, stronger than any other man I ever fought. I hit Saad with my best shot and all I got out of it was a buckled knee. Saad wasn't a smart fighter. I felt I could hit him at will. He wasn't good at slipping or sliding. He took punches to get his own offense going. But he was a hard puncher and he could wear a man down, as was the case with me.

This wouldn't be a classic because Galindez would have control. He wouldn't stand toe to toe, and he wouldn't wear out. Experience would also be a factor. Galindez by kayo in the 11th or 12th round.

Marvin Johnson is a former three-time light heavyweight champion. He was stopped by Saad Muhammad in 1977 and in a 1979 WBC title fight, and he took Galindez' WBA crown via kayo in 1979.

REFLECTIONS OF A FIGHTER'S SOUL





The pain exists only in the corner, when a fighter has the time to be attentive to it. "How do you feel?" manager Jimmy Glenn asks between rounds. "All right," McPherson answers instinctively.

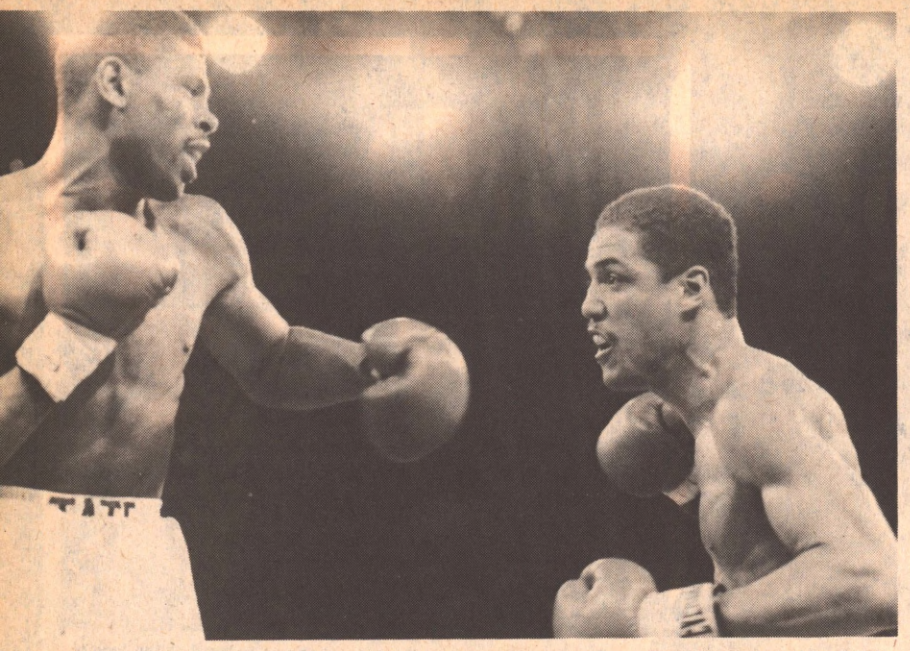
Mark McPherson started writing to pass time during his train rides from West Hempstead to New York City, where, as a professional middleweight, he trained at the Times Square Gym. McPherson never became a title threat—he retired after a May 1987 loss to Frank Tate—but he was good enough to fight on network TV and compile a record of 20-3.

The 29-year-old McPherson, who works as a sales consultant for an AT&T phone center and moonlights as a waiter, never before let anyone read his work. The following piece, written in 1986, is honest, refreshing, and timeless. We were lucky that McPherson decided to share it with us. We hope you're glad we decided to share it with you.

By Mark McPherson

My mouth is dry, my feet so very cold, yet beads of sweat run down the sides of my torso. From under white gauze and surgical tape, my fingers protrude like icicles hanging from some highway overpass. Under a robe, black with my name blocked across the back, my body glis-

Photo By Al Bello



McPherson cocks his right and aims it at Olympic gold medalist Frank Tate during their Atlantic City showdown in May 1987. In the biggest fight of his life, McPherson was stopped in the sixth round.

tens in baby oil. I'm standing in my lucky socks and broken leather shoes, stained with the blood from past battles. At my feet, a bucket with ice, a water bottle taped white, and various hospital dressings stamped with that familiar red cross.

It's evening in Atlantic City and I'm a professional fighter.

The fight before mine is scheduled for eight rounds, but they say "stay warm, that kid Rosario can punch." I can hear the crowd from here, a backstage dressing room, makeshift and filthy, and the bell tolling, just not yet for me. Someone comes in. "Better get loose kid, that fight's not going the distance." My manager hops off the table and grabs the gloves, rolled into little balls and tied by their laces to keep a better fist. "C'mon Mark, it's time," he says.

My heart races, and I can feel a drop of sweat fall from my underarm and race down my ribs. I try to joke and say "It's *been* time!" but the words are chased down my throat by a thick tongue.

From my trainer, who also happens to be my father, come words on how to stay upright during the exercise that awaits me. "Stay busy with this guy, don't get trapped along those ropes, don't lose your concentration!"

"Okay." I mumble and nod.

I can hear the crowd screaming now. There must have been a knockout. The commission inspector pushes aside the dressing room curtain, a clipboard at hand, and shouts, "Okay, McPherson, glove up—you're on!"

Jimmy, my manager, unrolls the gloves and holds one open at my waist for those icicle fingers. It really is time, and my heart says, "Somewhere . . . "

There's so much more to life!

College campuses with student centers and rathskellers . . . Noontime delis . . . Lunch trucks . . . Watering holes for the working class . . . Weekends off, paid holidays, a day to go to the mall . . . Friends you meet for happy hour . . . White shirts and ties, and shoes that keep a beat on the concrete . . . "Did you see the new girl in the office?" . . . Softball games and office pools . . . A list of appointments and interviews . . .

What am I doing here? My heart racing, my feet so cold. They'll cheer if I bleed, they'll roar if I fall. My mind spins . . . "He *must* fall, he *must* fall!"

My gloves are taped on, my hood goes overhead, and I know that within an hour it will all be done.

The inspector leads us down the corridor, toward the ballroom. At every corner the roar gets louder, and the reality seems harsher. My opponent appears from his dressing room—he's just in front of me. How calm he appears. How confident!

A waiter from the hotel passes us. He's organizing a handful of assorted bills. He looks up for a moment and catches my eye: "Good luck."

Inside a small voice comes to life. Every fight the voice makes its visit, and every fight it is expelled. It says: *"Wouldn't you rather be waiting tables? No pressure, no danger, no restrictions, none of this awful weight. Always a few dollars in your pockets, friends and an evening drink. Days off. A drive into the country. Doesn't that suit you better? Isn't that more to your liking? . . . "*

I slam my eyes shut and command the voice to get out, but I also ask it to leave its card in case I want to reach it after the fight. I chuckle out loud at the thought, and Jimmy asks, "What, son?"

"Nothing, Jimmy . . . nothing."

Through the doorway and into the ballroom . . . the ring is so bright it appears to be aflame. The hungry masses huddle close—excited, eager, and awed. I'm being thrown into the flames, and the public has come to witness. They cheer as my opponent and I make our way into the eye of the fire. They know that only one of us can emerge unscathed by the flames. The other is assured to burn.

In the crowd I spot faces I recognize. They cry out, "Do it, Mark! Go get him!" and I jab my glove in their direction and give them cold nods. Nearing the ring, I can feel the heat from the lights. The ringside elite grace me with their acknowledgement. It's time, and again my heart says, "Somewhere . . . "

There's a car breaking the speed limit on route 95 . . . In a college dorm the kegs are arriving for tonight's party . . . In an office with a view of 59th Street there's a man scratching his forehead in search of an answer that has for so long eluded him . . . In a West Coast bar the waitress changes the channel. "Let's watch the fights," she says . . .

"AND IN THIS CORNER, WEIGHING IN AT AN EVEN 157 POUNDS . . . "

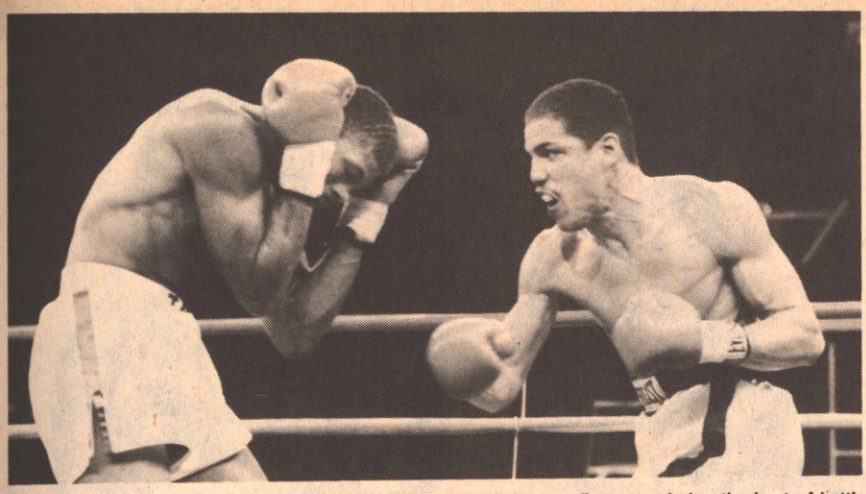
Nothing ever feels familiar in here. Not the ring, not the gloves, not my trunks. It's as if this experience were an absolutely new one, and I am a complete novice. The feeling is always alien.

"You both know the rules of the athletic commission of New Jersey. I want a clean fight. When I say break, you break."

He is one, and I am the other. The time has come for one to stand and the other to fall.

"I am the other . . . " I glare into his eyes, and inside my head a voice defiantly says, "I win . . . I win . . . " We touch gloves and are sent back to our respective corners.

If there is a moment in athletics when a man is looking over the ledge,



As is evident from McPherson's visage (above), doubts and dreams disappear during the heat of battle. A hard-earned victory (below vs. Ben Serrano) justifies a unique and often frustrating existence.

so mighty and yet so frail, it is when his cornermen leave him alone in the ring. The lights are so bright. It is the culmination of months of apprehensive moments.

In Los Angeles, in New York, on a giant screen in Texas, in some exclusive lounge in Atlantic City, they'll ask, "Who won that fight?" When is an athlete stripped of his flesh and bones and whittled to his core more than this moment he spends alone?

There will be no more digressions until the ringing of the final bell. The parameters of existence are measured 20-by-20, and the two forces that make up that existence now meet eye to eye. The rounds pass without definition—there are moments, yes, but for the most part it's just a blur. And, just as in our lives, the pain exists only when we have time to be attentive to it.

In my corner they ask me, "How do you feel?"

I'm losing about a pound-and-a-half of body weight every 10 minutes. There's a hand-held camera in my face and a microphone between my legs. My lip is bleeding, and there's swelling under my left eye. Twenty feet away, there sits a man contemplating how to better rest me unconscious. Around me fans scream for my injury. And to top it all off, I'm wearing almost nothing!

How do I feel? "All right," I answer.

"We need this last round!" my corner cries. But I know I am ahead.

The round-card girl struts by, a huge 10 held over her head. I rise off my stool and peer over a sea of blood-stained canvas. "I win," the voice still drums, and we are at match point.

My body is weary. Little remains unspent, and yet what remains I will scrape and claw from the depths of my being to squander here in these final three minutes. I know that he, too, will seek new life, as do we all when the end is in plain view. But I cannot allow him to steal a bounty the taste of which has already become sweet in my mouth.

In the twitch of the timekeeper's wrist, it's over. And with the final bell comes an embrace.

This man who has tormented me through sleepless nights . . . Whose very presence almost relieved me of my breakfast just hours earlier . . . Who, just seconds ago, I so desperately tried to harm . . . An embrace? Yes, and few you will find more true.

Never is the unity of all things clearer than when we have stood and fought for division. On a canvas stage we have bared ourselves in search of victory. The game over now, our roles complete, our unity is never more compelling. The flame has been extinguished and the heat has subsided. We have survived. The celebration is human.

I am announced the victor. My hands rise above my head and my eyes glare out into the crowd. My legs quiver from fatigue. It is adrenaline that holds me aloft and carries me back to my dressing room. They're tapping me on the back, touching my head and my shoulders. In voices that sound to be one part laughter, one part relief, they cry, "Good fight!"

My bandages are cut away, and my hands return to normal duty. I'm back in my dressing room, but it appears to have undergone a transformation. The curtains that before were bars of a prison cell now have flowers upon them. There is beauty here that was absent before.

My elbows rest on my knees. My unbandaged hands hang limp between my shins. My head floats, and sweat falls onto the backs of my fingers. It is finished. Now only peace.

No longer in search of refuge, my heart ceases to grope for "Somewhere . . . " "Somewhere . . . " has become *here,* and with not a place to venture, my heart finds rest and resolution and grows quiet. Dear God, thank you.

I look up. "Have you ever felt this?" I feel to say. But instead, the words come out, "Jimmy, when do we go again?" ■

The RING

Compiled By Stanley Weston

With files of more than three million black-and-white and color negatives, *The Ring* magazine photo collection is by far the largest in the world. Each issue, we'll pore through the files to bring you some of the most unique boxing photographs ever taken

WATCH THOSE KILTS

(February 10, 1971)

In Los Angeles to defend the world lightweight crown against Ruben Navarro, Scotland's Ken Buchanan is aglow while posing with a pair of well-endowed showgirls two days before the fight. Aside from ballyhooing the upcoming battle, Kenny was helping his homeland by publicizing Scotland's second most famous export, plaid cloth, from which the girls' bikinis are made. Buchanan retained the title by romping to a 15-round decision victory, his 39th against only one defeat.

ROYAL BOXING LESSON

(June 10, 1954)

When former heavyweight champion Jimmy Braddock (right) visited the training camp of reigning heavyweight king Rocky Marciano, who was preparing for his forthcoming title defense against ex-champion Ezzard Charles, "Cinderella" Jim cautioned Rocky to concentrate his attack on Charles' body in the first few rounds.

"Charles is the best boxer to hold the title since Gene Tunney," Braddock said. "He'll stand up straight and stick you with left jabs. But you must never forget that, unlike Tunney, this guy can knock your brains out with his right hand. You get careless for a second and you're gone."

Jimmy continued, "If you hurt him to the body, which you can do fighting out of a crouch, keep watching for him to drop his guard. When he does, shift your attack to his head."

Charlie Goldman, Marciano's trainer, agreed with Braddock, except for one thing. "We've got to go for both his body and his head right from the start," insisted Charlie. "We gotta mix it up to keep Charles guessing what we're gonna do next. You give this guy a fixed pattern to follow and he'll knock your brains out."

After the brutal fight, which Marciano won by 15-round decision, Braddock and Goldman shared credit for Rocky's victory. They seemed to forget that the champion also had something to do with it.

THE OTHER HENRY COOPER

(January 10, 1940)

Every fight fan remembers Henry Cooper as that gutsy British heavyweight who spilled more of his own blood in the ring than a steer in a slaughterhouse, and who once came within an inch of knocking out Cassius Clay.

So you may logically ask, "What in hell does all that have to do with this picture? Isn't that Billy Conn, the world light heavyweight champion, standing over Henry Cooper, whom he had just decked with a stunning left-right combination to the chin in the third round of their Madison Square Garden non-title fight that took place two years before Cassius Clay was born? You mean to tell us there was *another* Henry Cooper?" There sure was. And here you see him, in the flesh.

Who was the "other" Henry Cooper? Well, he was a tough Brooklyn-born Jewish heavyweight with the kick of a mule in his right fist. He had trouble with opponents who jabbed and circled away from his power, which is exactly what Conn had perfected into an art form. So it was no surprise that Conn romped to a 12-round decision over the plodding Henry. Commented the frustrated Cooper in his dressing room as he wiped a trickle of blood from his lip, "[Conn] could teach Fred Astaire a few dance steps."

TOOLS OF THE TRADE

(August 10, 1933)

The day after he kayoed Ben Jeby to win recognition by both the WBA and New York State as world middleweight champion, rugged French Canadian Lou Brouillard displays his bag of training equipment for the press. And heaven forbid that he should be without his ever-present cigar.

Brouillard was the type of fighter who willingly exposed his chin, defying an opponent to knock him out. And his record sustained that defiance, for in a total of 141 bouts over a period of 12 years, he was stopped only once (by Tiger Jack Fox).

But like all tough-guy types who exposed their chins, Lou couldn't handle stick-and-run stylists, men like Jackie Fields, Marcel Thil, Teddy Yarosz, and George Abrams, all of whom outpointed him.

Reminiscing in 1984, the year he died at age 73, Lou told a *Boston Globe* reporter, "All I ever asked an opponent to do was to stand up and fight. Don't run around the ring and stick out your tongue. Mix it up. The people paid to see a fight, not a dance . . . "

Lou Brouillard wanted to earn his purses. He felt an obligation to the fans. God rest his soul.

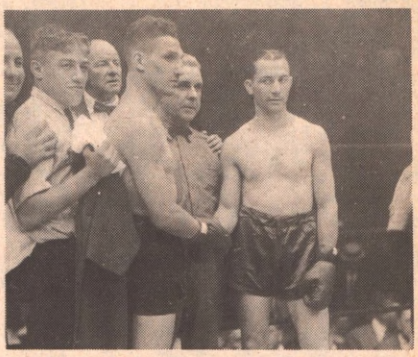
ONE DANGEROUS DUDE

(February 15, 1938)

Jack Blackburn gently massages Joe Louis' chest after a heated sparring session at the heavyweight champion's Pompton Lakes, New Jersey, training camp, where Joe was preparing for a title defense against Nathan Mann.

Blackburn, who had been one of the most feared welterweights in the world around the turn of the century, was considered a dangerous dude outside the ring as well. Blackburn was hired to not only train Louis from the day Joe turned pro, but also keep him under tight control.

Blackburn had served a jail term for murder, and he always carried a silver inlaid straight razor, which he could use with the skill of a surgeon. The story goes that when Louis was first introduced to Blackburn, Jack slowly pulled the razor out of his pocket, strapped it across the palm of his left hand, and looked the startled youngster squarely in the eye. Joe got the message loud and clear, and never once during their long relationship did he ever get out of line when Blackburn was around.



EYES RIGHT

(July 23, 1923)

While everybody else is smiling for the photographer, Benny Leonard glues his eyes on opponent Lew Tendler moments before the start of their lightweight title fight at New York's Yankee Stadium. Defending champion Leonard was unequalled as a boxing strategist and psychologist. Ray Arcel, Benny's longtime trainer, recalls, "All Benny ever asked was to watch a future opponent sparring for just a round or two. We would dream up ways of disguising him so they wouldn't recognize Benny at the training camp."

Arcel added, "One of the things Benny always did was to never, never take his eyes off an opponent. It seemed to me that he was looking right through the guys, like they were made of glass and he was looking . . . searching for that one fatal flaw in their armor that he could capitalize on."

This picture proves the memory of the 91-year-old Arcel is as sharp as ever. Oh, yes, Leonard won 13 of the 15 rounds and retained the title.

ITALY'S AMBLING ALP

(January 3, 1930)

From the moment he first set foot in America to launch his drive for a shot at the heavyweight championship, Italy's mountainous Primo Carnera was an awesome curiosity who attracted gaping crowds. Nobody had ever seen a 6'5¾", 260-pound human being before. Famed journalist Damon Runyon commented upon meeting Carnera for the first time, "This guy wouldn't have to wear boxing gloves to draw sellout crowds. Just seeing him would be worth the price of admission. Can you imagine what old P.T. Barnum could do with him, considering what a sensation he made of little Tom Thumb?"

This picture was taken at the New York City pier after Primo disembarked from the Italian ocean liner that brought him to America. To further emphasize his hugeness, manager Leon See (at Primo's right) ordered him to use the roof of a taxi as a desk to sign autographs. Fourth from left is the great former featherweight champion Abe Attell, who commented, "How are they gonna find a guy crazy enough to get into the ring with him?"

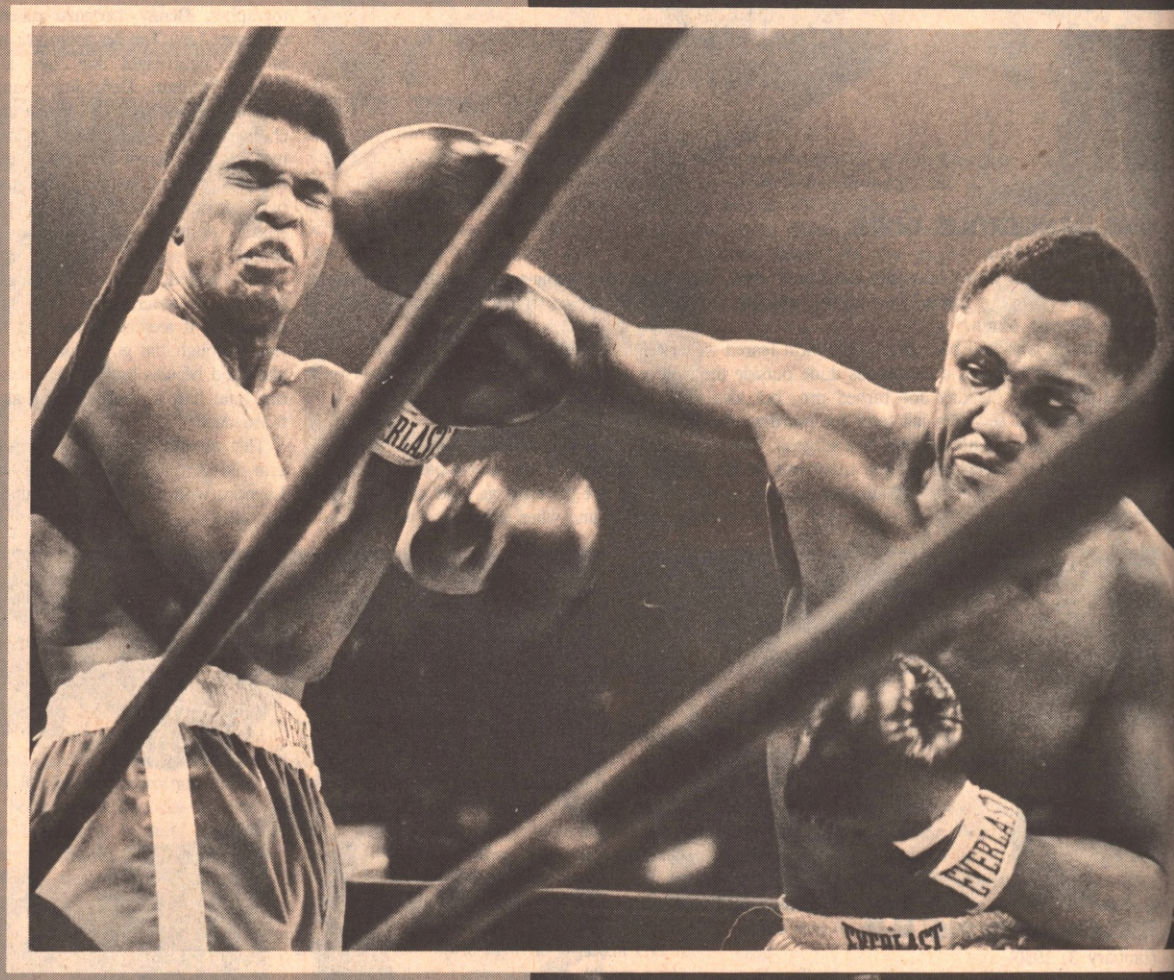
AMERICAN DEBUT

(December 6, 1946)

French idol Marcel Cerdan is about to zero in on Georgie Abrams' severely cut right eye in the third round of the Madison Square Garden bout in which the 30-year-old Frenchman made his American debut. Cerdan, who had lost only twice (both times on fouls) in 99 bouts, was heavily favored to beat master boxer Abrams, but at the end of 10 rounds, the majority of the fans who had packed the Garden believed the American had clearly won. They protested bitterly when Cerdan was handed the decision.

Two years later, Marcel stopped Tony Zale to win the world middleweight crown and establish himself as the most idolized French boxer in history.

ALI-FRAZIER I



20 Years Later, Still The Fight Of The Century

"What happened when Ali went up against Frazier will obsess a lot of people for a long time."

—Jimmy Cannon, New York Daily Mirror, March 10, 1971

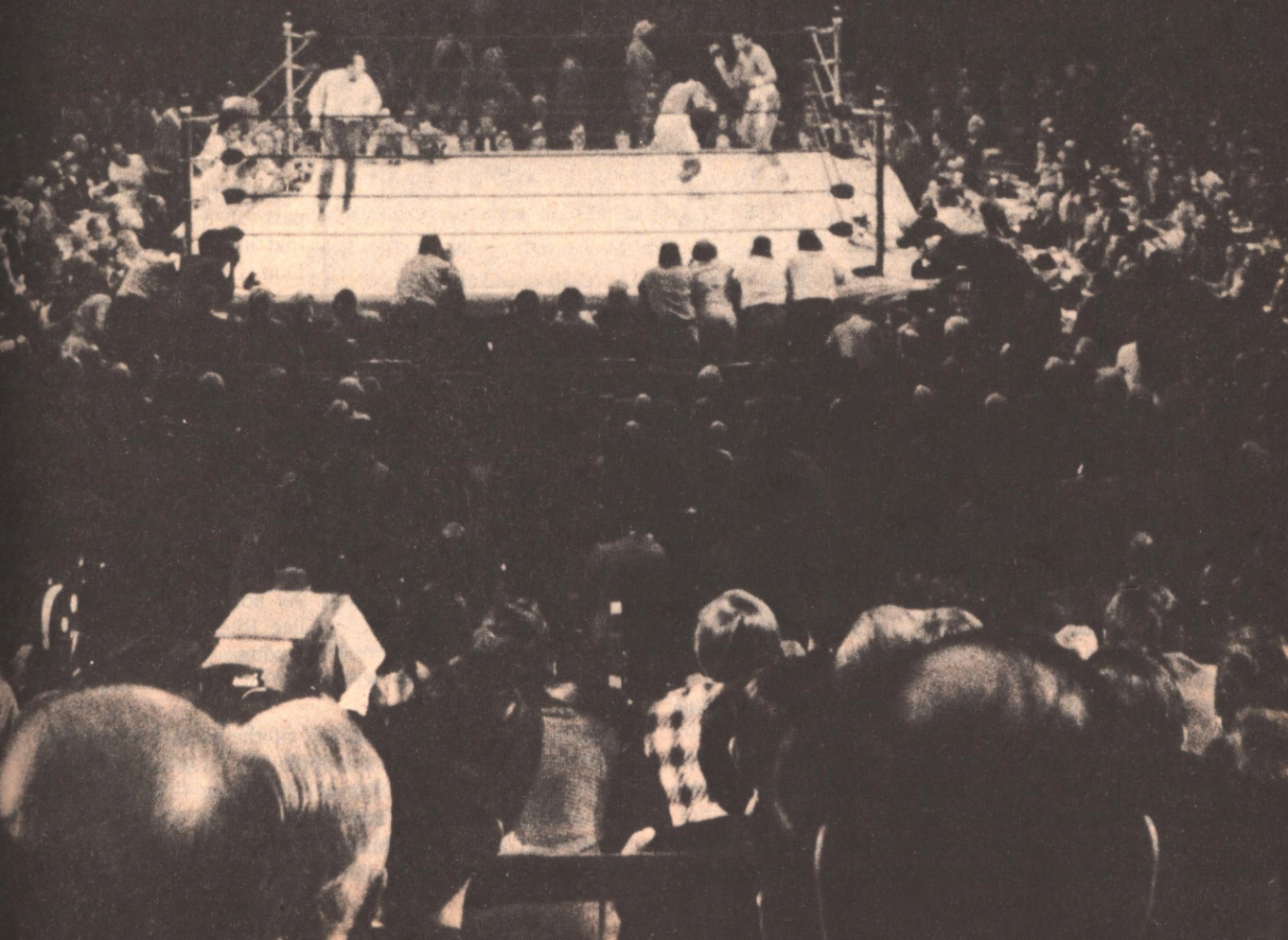
By Robert Cassidy

Muhammad Ali vs. Joe Frazier, March 8, 1971. It was called The Fight of the Century, and 20 years later, the billing still holds true. No fight before or since has carried the same significance. Its impact transcended boxing, crossing social, economic, and racial barriers. It was a sporting event that turned into an obsession. And the lines were clearly divided.

The United States was only two years removed from the turbulent 1960s, and more than any other athlete, Ali's attitude of defiance symbolized that decade. He represented the anti-war movement and the black Muslims when both groups were viewed with contempt by mainstream America. On the day of the fight, it was written in the *New York Post* that Ali was "the rallying point for all shadings of dissent and anti-establishmentarianism."

At the start of the '70s, many Americans had softened their stance on the Vietnam War, and Ali maintained his own devoted and cultlike following. Upon returning to boxing from a three-year exile, stemming from his refusal to enter the U.S. Armed Forces in 1967, the still-unbeaten Ali stopped contenders Jerry Quarry and Oscar Bonavena and proclaimed himself "The People's Champion."

If Ali were "The People's Champion," Frazier sure-



The fight before The Fight. In December 1970, Frazier and Ali jab with their fingers at a raucous press conference. Ali won. Three months later, they jabbed with their fists, and Frazier got even.

Joe Coffey,

now an Investigative Coordinator for the New York State Organized Crime Task Force, who led a squad of 12 detectives assigned to protect Joe Frazier after he received death threats:

"Because of the situation and the danger involved, we had to keep him inside his hotel room for three days. But Yank Durham wanted him to do his roadwork in Central Park. I couldn't allow it; he would have been too vulnerable. So he'd put on his rubber suit and he'd run in place and shadowbox in the room. We turned the Pierre Hotel into a gym.

"Joe was very religious, and he was intent on reading his Bible and playing his guitar. But you could tell he was totally dedicated to winning the fight. He was completely focused. We would watch Ali on TV and you could just see Joe couldn't wait to get a piece of him. I knew he was going to win the fight, there was no question."

readily identified with him. In contrast to his vociferous opponent, Frazier was introverted and quiet, traveling without the swelling entourage and fanfare that surrounded Ali. Perhaps solidifying Frazier's popularity among the mainstream was the fact that he practiced Christianity. He read the Bible and attended church on Sunday mornings. For many observers, deciding whom to root for was as simple as hot dogs, apple pie, and Joe Frazier.

As he had done throughout his entire career, Ali continually ridiculed Frazier. He took advantage of every opportunity to land his verbal jabs and predicted an easy victory. "It will be no contest," he promised. "There's no way I can lose."

Ali carried his psychological tactics a step further when the issue of race was approached. He called Frazier an "Uncle Tom" and said that "the whites in the country" would be rooting for Smokin' Joe to win.

At a November 1989 press conference in New York, Ali attempted to minimize what was believed to be an intense hatred by dismissing his actions of almost 20 years before. "We are the world's best actors," he said. "We pretended to hate each other to draw a crowd. We're friends."

But before the fight, Ali's words stung. So Frazier stung back.

"You going to tell me Clay don't have white friends?" Frazier said in 1971. "He's using his blackness to get his way. As far as I'm concerned, he's a phony."

Whatever Ali was outside of the ring, he certainly wasn't a phony once the bell rang. Guaranteed an extraordinary night, if not an exceptional fight, the stars, superstars, and fashion plates were out *en masse*. Not only was Madison Square Garden playing host to the The Fight of the Century, but to the social event of the year as well.

"The electricity I felt at the Garden that night was the most intense electric feeling I've ever felt at any great sporting event," said boxing analyst Ferdie Pacheco, who was Ali's personal physician.

"It was a great happening," said Ali's trainer, Angelo Dundee. "All the fur coats were out and all the swingers. A lot of great names were there."

Ringside resembled a Hollywood who's who. Frank Sinatra was taking pictures for *LIFE* magazine and Burt Lancaster was part of a broadcast team that included the legendary Don Dunphy and former light heavyweight champion Archie Moore. Sprinkled among the throng of hardcore fight fans in the house-best $150 ringside seats were celebrities like Barbra Streisand, Bill Cosby, Sammy Davis Jr., and Hugh Hefner, complete with a *Playboy* playmate clinging to his arm. As boxing lore has it, the late John Condon, head of boxing publicity at the Garden, threw Diana Ross out of the working press section.

Almost lost in the excitement of the event was the fight itself. From a boxing standpoint, it was an intriguing matchup. Both were Olympic champions—Ali as a light heavyweight in 1960, and Frazier as a heavyweight in 1964—and as professionals, both were unbeaten, with Ali at 31-0 (25) and Frazier 26-0 (23).

George Kalinsky,

official photographer for Madison Square Garden since 1966:

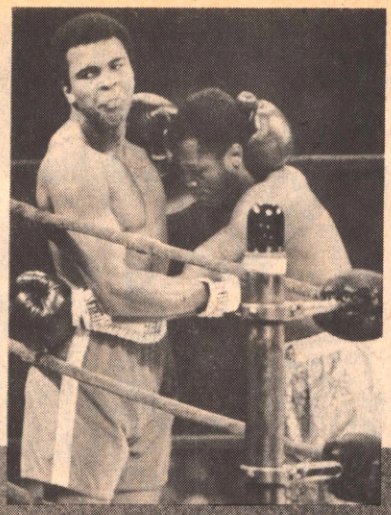
"About five weeks before the fight, John Condon arranged to have Ali and Joe at Joe Frazier's Gym in Philadelphia. It was one of the most exciting days of photography I've ever had. Maybe even more than the fight. It was just me, John, Yank Durham, and the fighters.

"The first thing I tried to do was get the two guys together for a nose-to-nose shot. I was trying to get them to show expression on their faces like they were hitting each other. As I was getting them together, Joe hit Ali in the stomach. Then Ali hit him back. Then Joe hit back a little harder, and then Ali hit back a little harder. Finally Joe hit Ali in the stomach really hard, and Ali stepped back and said, 'You son of a bitch, you really *can* punch,' and he pulled his trunks up almost around his neck."

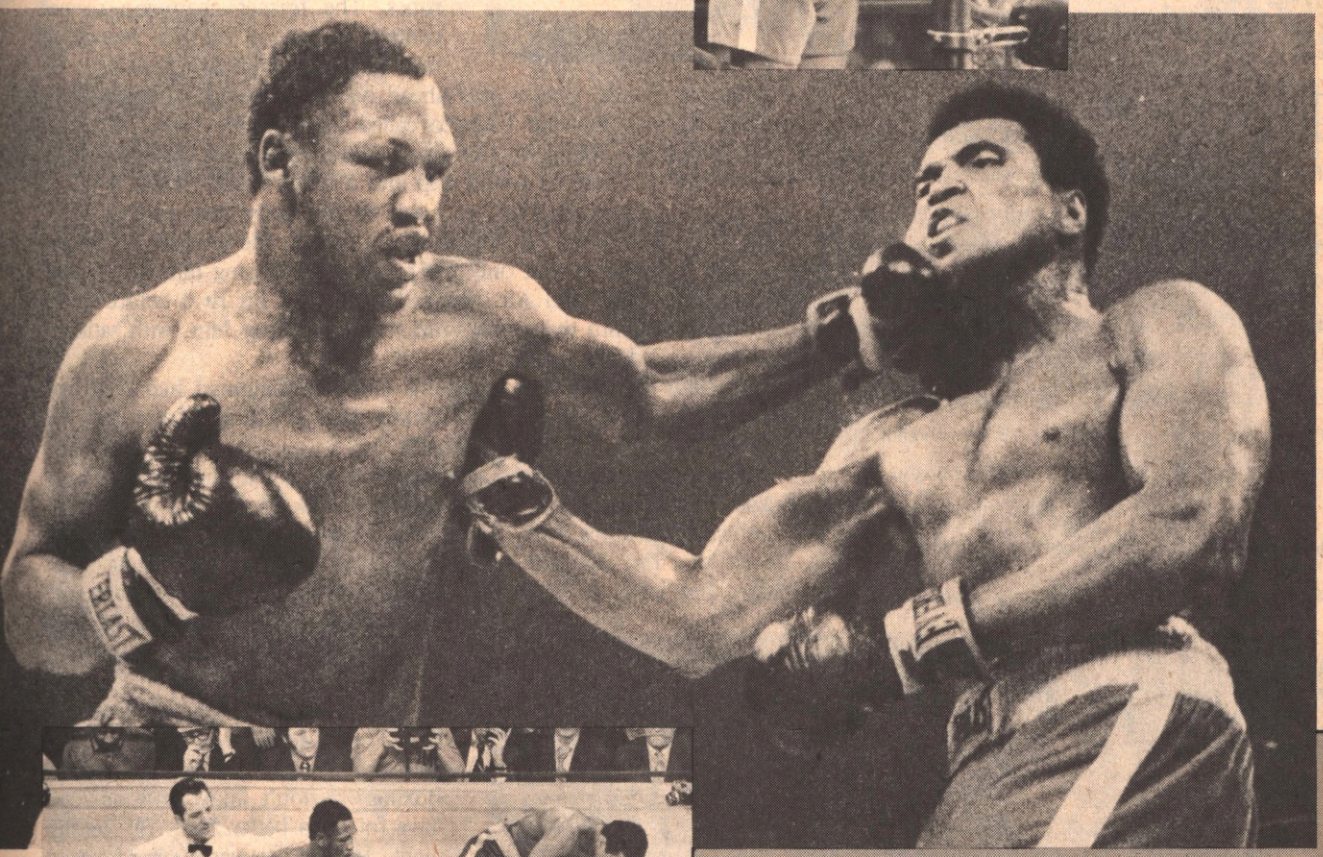
While Frazier was recognized by all major governing bodies as the heavyweight champion of the world, Ali still laid claim to the title. After his draft-induction denial, he was stripped of the crown by the WBA and the New York State Athletic Commission. He had not lost the title in the ring, however, which left an uneasy feeling with boxing purists.

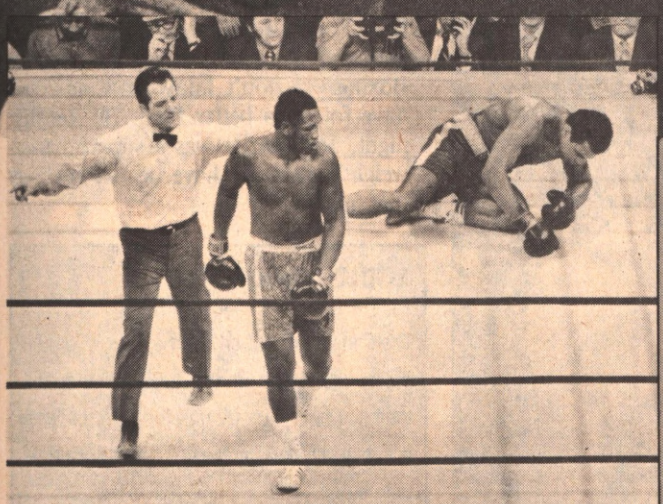
But after 15 rounds of boxing, the fans who witnessed the brilliance of the Fight of the Century could not dispute the legitimacy of the champion's claim. Styles make fights, and while Frazier was the slugger and Ali the boxer, it was their unwavering pride and tremendous desire to win that made the fight special.

"I was there to do a job," Frazier said recently. "I was gonna get that job done, and nothing could have stopped me that night. If he had a couple of nine-millimeters [guns], I would have walked right through them."



Early in the fight, Ali played to the crowd as Smokin' Joe crowded him (left). But in the championship rounds, the relentless Frazier forced the challenger to concentrate by landing his best Philadelphia hooks (below).





Frazier's booming 15th-round hook leaves Ali groping for his senses. Incredibly, Ali rose almost immediately. Frazier, however, was well ahead on points.

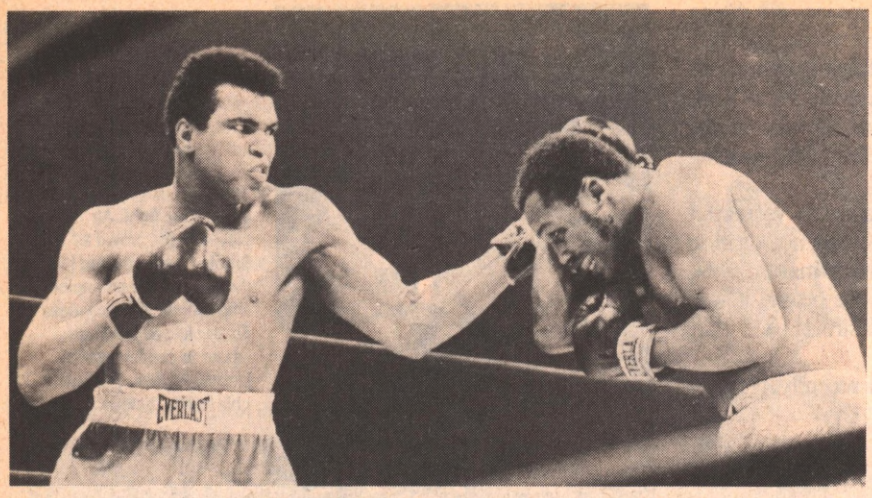
Indeed, Frazier walked through every jab, cross, and hook Ali threw. The action was fast and rarely ceased. Ali boxed calmly, inching back to allow himself punching room. As Frazier waded in, he was met with stinging left-right combinations or double jabs. But Frazier never relented. He kept pursuing Ali, flailing left hooks to the head and body. In round five, Ali landed an angry left-right combo that led Frazier to drop his hands and taunt his tormentor. At the bell, Frazier defiantly slapped the back of Ali's head as the two parted for their respective corners.

While calling the fight at ringside, Dunphy said, "I don't

Dave Anderson,
Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist, who covered the fight for the New York Times:

"The one thing I remember was when Ali got knocked down, he was a little more than two feet away from me. I was watching and writing and I could see him falling toward me. When he hit the canvas, it sounded like 20 rolls of thunder. Being so close to it, so close to the noise, the knockdown impressed me more than it did other people.

"And Ali got up so quick. As quick as you could get up from a knockdown."



Ali's left, which had speared countless foes, was mildly successful vs. Frazier, who constantly slipped and slid (left). After the battle, trainer Yank Durham embraces his fighter (opposite page, top).

know anyone who gets the sheer joy of combat that Joe Frazier does."

In rounds six, seven, and eight, Ali leaned on the ropes and allowed Frazier to smother him with hooks. He responded only with pitter-patter punches as if he were tapping a speed-bag. At one point, Frazier grabbed Ali's arms and pulled him off the ropes. The former champion seemed content on giving up the rounds. It may have cost him the fight.

After 10 rounds, Frazier was ahead on the scorecards and about to increase his lead in what Pacheco called "the terrible 11th."

Ali started the round by flurrying off the ropes and moving toward Frazier. But this time he would step into a fierce Frazier hook. When it landed, Ali's knees buckled. A hook to the body and another short hook to the head sent Ali sinking into a corner. He seemed out on his feet, and it appeared that only the ropes were keeping him up. Frazier let him slide away, and Ali managed to mug at his rival before stumbling backward into the ropes. Frazier chugged after him, with satisfaction and confidence oozing.

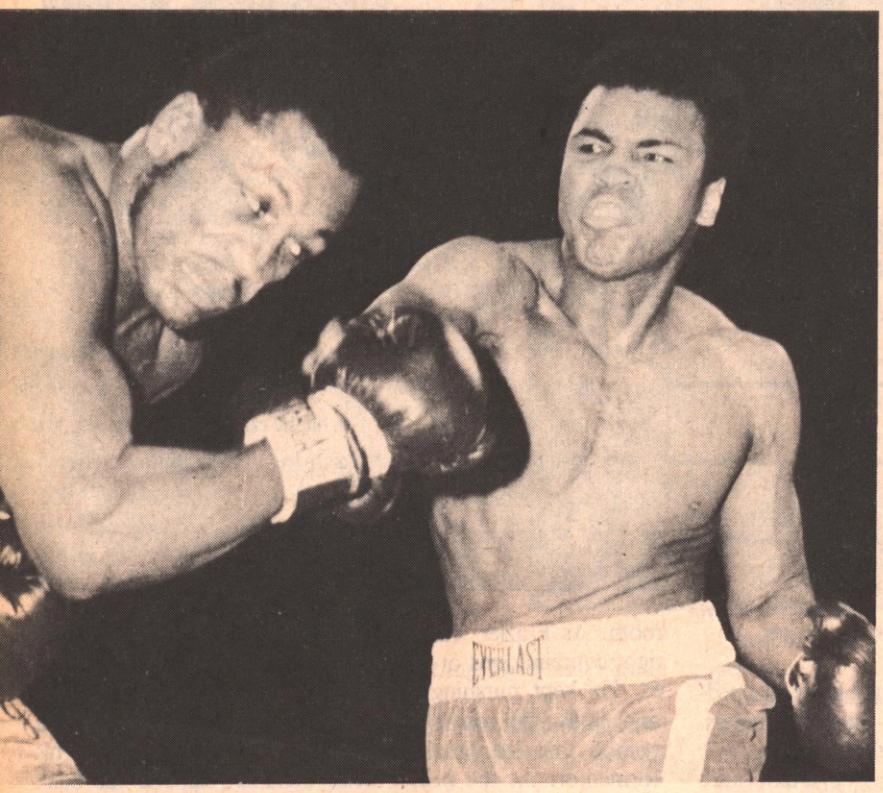
"Anybody that had any questions about Muhammad had them answered after the 11th round," Dundee said. "I don't know how he survived the 11th. It was remarkable."

Perhaps even more remarkable was that Ali got up in round 15 after Frazier drilled him again. A compact left hook in the first minute sent Ali crashing onto his back. As he hit the canvas, his legs kicked up into the air and the red and white tassles that adorned his boxing shoes danced frantically in the smokey Garden air. Ali rose immediately. But Frazier, with blood-smeered lips and his face a lumpy landscape of pain, had secured the decision.

"I thought Ali fought a magnificent fight," said Harry Markson, then the president of Madison Square Garden Boxing. "I don't know how he could have fought a better fight. But on that night, Joe Frazier was a superb heavyweight. He could have beaten anybody that night."

Tommy Kenville,
a boxing publicist at Madison Square Garden for 20 years:

"The most exciting thing for me was Frank Sinatra's appearance at ringside. The knockdown was exciting, but turning around after the National Anthem and seeing Sinatra with a camera was the biggest surprise of my life. Sinatra was the big idol when I was growing up. He was taking pictures for *LIFE* magazine, and nobody told me he was coming. I was completely taken back. When the house lights went down, John Condon marched him in. Everybody was looking for the flag. Then when the lights went back on—*boom*—there's Sinatra about eight feet away from me with a camera."



Frazier controlled the fight, but absorbed a considerable amount of punishment along the way. Ali's quick combinations, further featured in his second and third battles with Frazier, scored plenty of points.

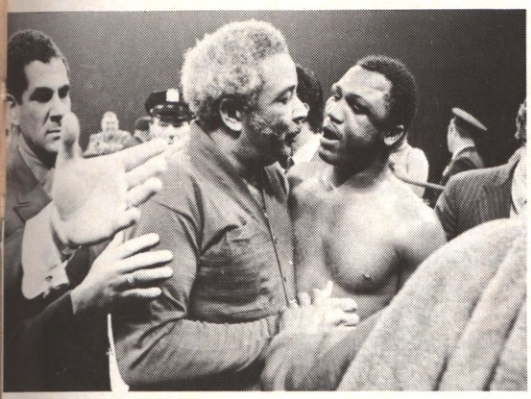
Eddie Futch,
Joe Frazier's cornerman:

"The thing I remember was the tremendous pressure that surrounded the fight during the training period, up through the fight, and after it. I've never encountered that much pressure before or since. Somehow things like that didn't bother Joe. He was the most relaxed fighter that I've ever worked with under those circumstances. He kept it all inside. Joe was always loose. But that night, he was indestructible. He was a machine of destruction."

The Fight of the Century was over, with Frazier winning a clear unanimous decision (rounds scoring of 8-6-1, 9-6, and 11-4). There were 20,455 spectators who watched it live at the Garden, and an estimated 300-million worldwide who viewed it on closed-circuit TV. Both fighters earned a then-spectacular $2.5-million. The live gate generated $1.3-million and closed-circuit revenues producing another $25-million. Co-promoters Jerry Perenchio and Jack Kent Cooke enjoyed a windfall.

"Realization exceeded expectation," Pacheco said. "It was a superior fight. They were two champions at the very top of their game."

Ali and Frazier created a rare chemistry that has yet to be matched. Boxers will forever fight sluggers, but few will



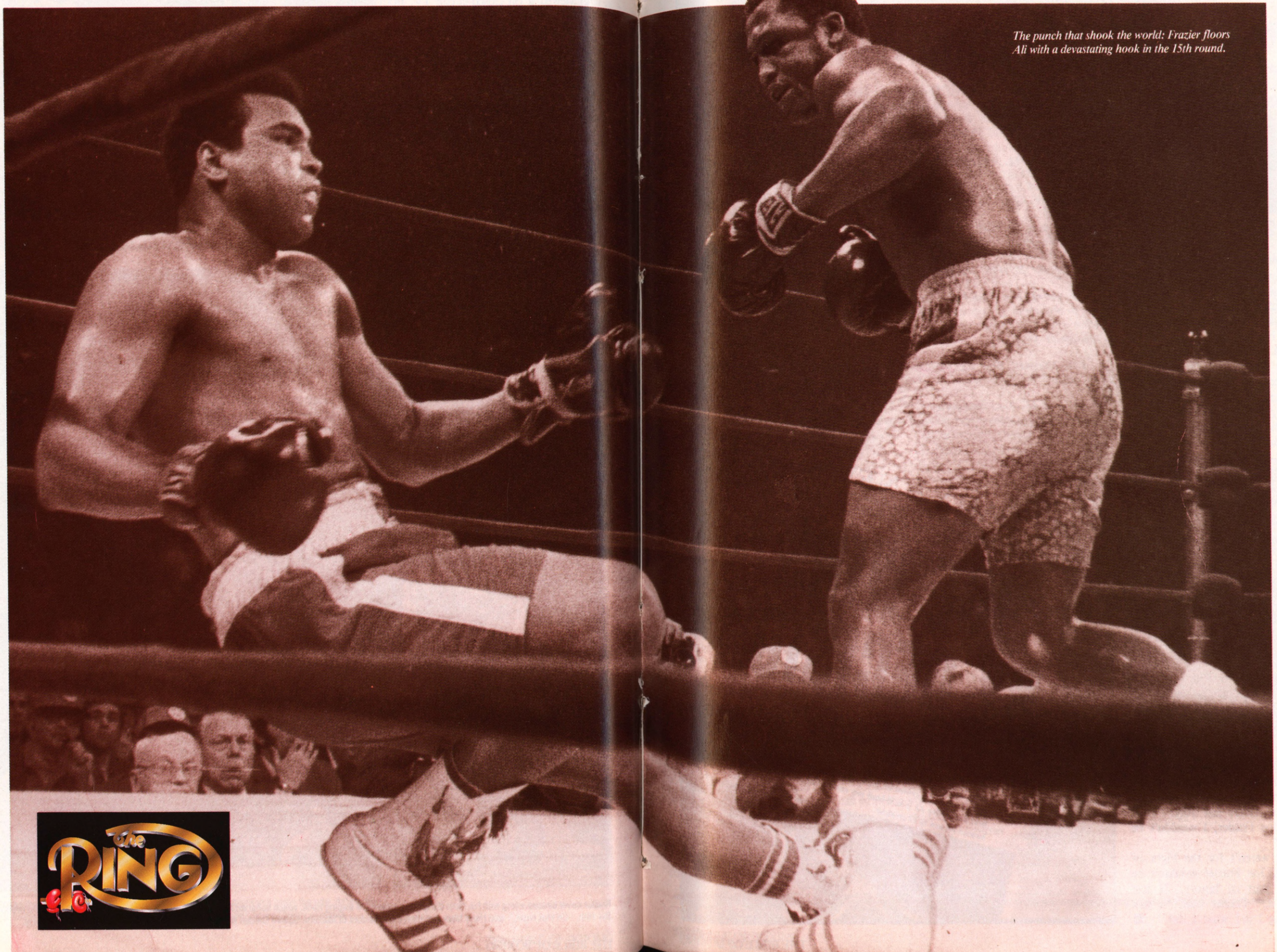
Arthur Mercante,
who has refereed 93 world title fights, including Ali-Frazier I:

"I remember after the 11th round, listening to Ali's corner to see how he was, figuring he wasn't going to come back out. But he was talking to Angelo Dundee as clear as I am talking now.

"I know the fight was a very important event. But I can honestly tell you I wasn't aware of anybody at ringside. I wasn't stargazing. It can affect an official's judgment if he is intimidated or in awe of an event. It seems to me that the magnitude of the event has gained more impact. I never realized it until many years later. I feel that it was such a privilege to have done it and be associated with the fight."

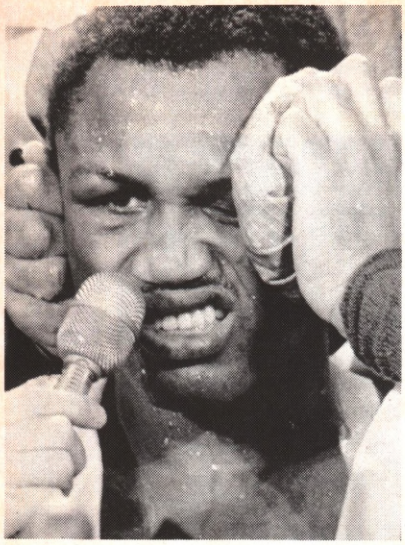
Frazier never ceased trying with his most dangerous weapon, a leaping hook, which softened Ali early in the fight, staggered him in the 11th, and dropped him in the 15th. "On that night," said Harry Markson, then the president of Madison Square Garden Boxing, "Joe Frazier . . . could have beaten anybody."

SUPERFIGHT - MUHAMMAD ALI VS. JOE FRAZIER



The punch that shook the world: Frazier floors Ali with a devastating hook in the 15th round.

The RING



Tough enough for you? Frazier greets the press after outpointing Ali in the Fight of the Century.

do so the way Ali and Frazier did.

Without each other, there would be a tremendous void in their careers. Their respective records are sprinkled with names like Liston, Quarry, Foreman, and Norton, but it is Ali vs. Frazier, and the three epic battles they waged, that will remain the standard.

The champions will remain forever linked. Even as Ali now struggles through life, inflicted with Parkinson's Syndrome, he acknowledges the impact Frazier made.

Marvis Frazier,

Joe's son, who, in 1983, challenged Larry Holmes for the heavyweight title:

"I was 11 years old. I was old enough to know what was happening. Me and my sisters were home listening on the radio. There was a nurse there and bodyguards. I guess it was the promoters who sent them in case somebody tried to snatch one of us kids so Ali could win. We were nervous, but we all knew [my father] was gonna win. Back then my father was Superman to me. We knew he couldn't lose.

"In the 15th round, when Ali went down, we were all jumping all around. We saw [Dad] the next day and it was the same thing—jumping all around. We had a little victory cake."

"Joe Frazier helped make Muhammad Ali what he is today," Ali told NBC's Marv Albert last July. "If it wasn't for Joe Frazier, I wouldn't be who I am."

And if it weren't for the Fight of the Century, Joe Frazier wouldn't be an indelible part of history. "I just love seeing it," Frazier said. "I just love knowing I did what I did." ■

BELIEVE THE HYPE

The first Ali-Frazier showdown was the most hyped fight in boxing history. It was called "The Fight of the Century," and, as the ringside reports indicate, it lived up to the billing.

Dick Young, New York Daily News: "The ghetto whupping was complete. Done with such eclat. With such copied contempt that none of Ali's people raised a voice in protest."

Dave Anderson, New York Times: "In a classic 15-round battle, Joe Frazier broke the wings of the butterfly and smashed the stinger of the bee last night, winning a unanimous 15-round decision over Muhammad Ali at Madison Square Garden."

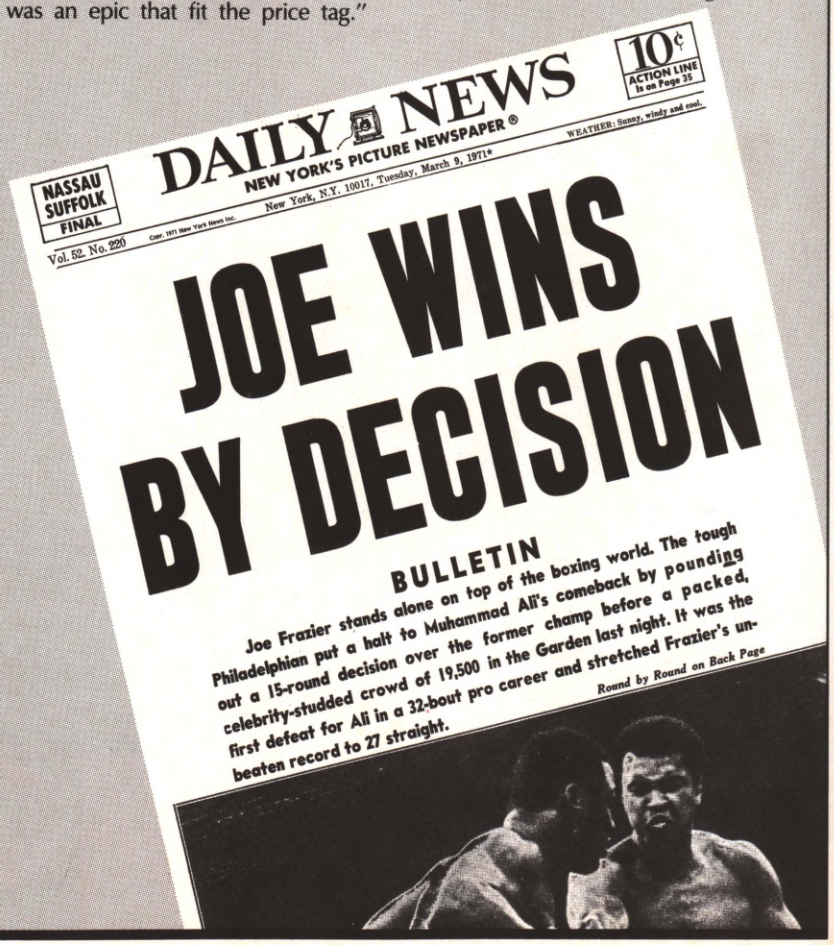
Norman Mailer, Life Magazine: "Frazier reached out to snatch the magic punch from the air and found it . . . and thunked Ali a hell and hit Ali a heaven of a shot which dumped Muhammad into 50,000 newspaper photographs—Ali on the floor. Great Ali on the floor was out there flat . . . "

Bob Waters, Newsday: "Ali was the beaten fighter no matter how you count. It was Ali's eyes that went glassy and his legs that wobbled in the 11th round when a Frazier hook caught him flush on his jaw. And Ali went into that dance that puppets do when the guy with the strings is drunk."

Pete Hamill, New York Post: "They had done that to us, Mr. Frazier and Mr. Ali. In one evening, dressed in trunks, wearing gloves, they had gone at each other with their bodies and their courage and they had altered the lives of millions of people."

Larry Merchant, New York Post: " . . . a fight of primitive fury and insolence, punctuated by ghetto gamesmanship."

Arthur Daley, New York Times: "The wildly exciting exhibition of primitive savagery that Joe Frazier and Muhammad Ali put on over 15 exhausting rounds was an epic that fit the price tag."


DAILY NEWS
NEW YORK'S PICTURE NEWSPAPER®
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ACTION LINE Is on Page 35
NASSAU SUFFOLK FINAL
New York, N.Y. 10017, Tuesday, March 9, 1971*
WEATHER: Sunny, windy and cool.
Vol. 52, No. 220
JOE WINS BY DECISION
BULLETIN
Joe Frazier stands alone on top of the boxing world. The tough Philadelphian put a halt to Muhammad Ali's comeback by pounding out a 15-round decision over the former champ before a packed, celebrity-studded crowd of 19,500 in the Garden last night. It was the first defeat for Ali in a 32-bout pro career and stretched Frazier's unbeaten record to 27 straight.
Round by Round on Back Page

Blind And Forgotten

GEORGE COSTNER'S RISE FROM THE DEPTHS OF DESPAIR

By Joseph C. Tintle

George "Sugar" Costner turns on the radio and eases his six-foot frame onto his velvet couch to listen to WNOP, a jazz station out of Newport, Kentucky. The improvisational technique of jazz great John Coltrane that drifts across state lines and into Costner's living room in Cincinnati fills the 67-year-old former fighter with the same sense of satisfaction he experienced long ago in the ring.

It is mid-morning, and cold, stinging winds slap against his apartment window on Beecher Street. But Costner hasn't a care in the world, even though he is totally blind, the result of one too many punches during a 10-year boxing career. As the Coltrane piece winds down, a smile creases Costner's face.

"Oh, man," he says softly, "I *love* my jazz."

The parallel between boxing and jazz is not lost on Costner, a top-rated welterweight contender in 1950.

"If you expected to stand out from the other fighters," he says, "you had to constantly improvise to adjust to your opponent's ever-changing strategy. And, like a jazz musician, the more you improvised, the better your chances of reaching a higher level."

From 1940 to 1950, Costner compiled a record of 77-10-5 (48). His victories included decisions over Kid Gavilan and Ike Williams. In 1950, he was forced to retire after it was learned that he had been fighting 14 months without vision in his right eye. The bout that changed his life took place on May 9, 1949. During a scheduled 10-rounder in Philadelphia, Chico Varona, an exciting Cuban welterweight, drove a right to Costner's left cheekbone.

"It happened in the sixth round," Costner recalls, "and all of a sudden it was as if someone threw a ball of fire in my face."

He told his cornermen what had happened, and they immediately suspected a detached retina. "I'm all right, I'm all right," Costner insisted, refusing to accept the possibility of injury. But even before the bell for the seventh round, everything was becoming darker. Varona pounded him for the next three minutes.

Oddly, Costner's vision returned in the eighth round. So he slammed Varona's head and body the rest of the way, knocking him down four times in the 10th before the bout was stopped. "I should've taken him out early," Costner says, "but I overtrained."

The next day, he sought medical treatment. Doctors told him that he had suffered only a broken blood vessel. Relieved, he returned to the gym, believing everything was fine. Within weeks, though, his vision began to fade again. He never mentioned it to anyone except his manager, Vic Marsillo, because as a world-class contender, he didn't want to jeopardize a possible title shot. He fought his last four fights with one good eye.

The first was a non-title fight against welterweight champion Sugar Ray Robinson. They'd fought before, in February 1945, with Robinson kayoing Costner with a sweeping first-round hook. But Costner was confident he'd win a rematch. "I even went to Sugar's bar in Harlem and begged him for a fight," he recalls.

Robinson was sure there was only one "Sugar," and he thought Costner was being foolish. After all, Robinson was ready to move up to middleweight, which would leave the *other* Sugar to face weaker opposition and contest for the vacant 147-pound title. Still, Costner signed to fight Robinson on March 22, 1950.

For some reason that Costner cannot explain, the sight in his right eye improved by his arrival at training camp. He began to think he just might *beat* Robinson. But three days before the fight he again lost his vision, and he and Marsillo sat up all night trying to figure out what to do. After all, they had fights lined up with Gavilan and Williams, and the money was going to be good.

"While I'm crying my eyes out," Costner remembers, "somebody—I don't recall who—suggested I lay down against Robinson. And you know what? That's just what I did."

Costner regrets that decision to this day because he truly wanted to *fight* Robinson. But he believed he could take Gavilan and Williams easily, and if he did, he had no doubt that he'd get a title shot. So why risk his eye and a title shot against a pinpoint puncher like Robinson, a man who was about to leave the division?

Robinson-Costner was short but fierce. "He was really throwing bombshells," Robinson said afterward. "I couldn't afford to make a little mistake, and I'm glad it ended before I had a chance to make one." It ended when Robinson slammed Costner with an uppercut to the chin and a hook to the jaw. Costner was counted out at 2:49 of round one.

"I could've gotten up," Costner insists. "I just didn't."

Costner returned to the ring in May 1950 and outpointed Gavilan. In his last two fights, he outpointed Charley Cotton and decisioned Williams, the reigning lightweight king, in a non-title bout at Philadelphia's Shibe Park.

"Ike was a great fighter," Costner recalls. "He had speed, finesse, and the man could punch. But I was confident I'd beat him, even with only one good eye."

In 1945, Costner faced Ray Robinson and Jake LaMotta in consecutive fights. The photo shows Costner after being stopped by LaMotta in the sixth round. Six weeks earlier, he had been kayoed by Robinson.

Costner shook Williams with a left hook in the third, and the blow hampered Williams' reflexes for the rest of the fight. "I tore him up pretty bad," Costner says. "Worse than I should have."

After the bout, John "Ox" Da Grosa, the Pennsylvania State Athletic Commissioner, asked the winner to offer Williams a kind word. "When I got to his dressing room," Costner recalls, "Ike was lying on a stretcher, and it looked like he had two heads. That's how swollen he was."

The morning after his exhilarating victory, Costner was called before the commissioner. "I know about your injury," Da Grosa told him. "I knew of it at the weigh-in. And I was up half the night talking with my wife as to whether you should fight Ike. We decided to let you fight because we didn't think he would present much of a problem. But I'm sorry to say that you're not going to fight anymore. The NBA [National Boxing Association] has ordered you to retire."

The 26-year-old fighter stood transfixed.

"My dream of a lifetime vanished," he recalls. "And I so wanted to bring that precious belt back to my neighborhood. What really hurt, though, was when Gavilan won the welterweight title a year after I'd beaten him."

To allay Costner's worries about future employment, Da Grosa promised him a state job. But the commissioner died before he could keep his word. Then things got worse. The sight in Costner's *left* eye began to deteriorate, as did his quality of his life.

"I didn't realize it then," he says, "but that one punch from Varona probably detached the retinas in both eyes. I'd experienced a little darkness and fuzziness in the left eye, as well as the right eye, after I got hit by Varona. But I didn't pay much attention to it. I figured it was a cataract, and so did the doctors, who later removed it. But they never mentioned a detached retina."

Six operations—from 1950 to 1958—failed to save Costner's sight, and he eventually lost all vision. Through the years, he has subsisted on a small Army pension, welfare checks,

and a variety of odd jobs. "Nobody wanted to hire a blind man," he says ruefully.

Costner's three children were too young to help him, and, he says, his second wife "was of no inspiration."

It wasn't long before he was living a broken-down existence. For the longest time, he was too proud to use a cane because he thought he knew every crevice in his neighborhood. But as he was walking home one night in 1962, he reached for a metal fence in front of a building near his home. What he didn't realize was that a group of area youngsters had stolen the fence a few days earlier. Without its support, Costner plunged 10 feet onto concrete.

No one heard his cries for help. And only after a while was he able to feel around and find steps. He crawled up the steps and hobbled home. "Existing in darkness was terrible," he recalls. "I was going around the world ass backwards. About the only thing I had to cling to was my jazz. Believe me, it got me through some awfully tough times."

So did Betty Cord, a lifelong friend. "If I needed an extra piece of cash, she helped out," he says. "In fact, we're still pretty tight."

Costner also befriended Helen Franklin during his years in Dayton, Ohio. "Her family often invited me for dinner and made me feel wanted," he recalls. "And these were white people. I only mention that because certain members of my family couldn't have cared less about me. In 1945, I bought my parents a house with the $10,000 I earned fighting Robinson. The understanding was that they'd leave it to me in their will so I had something for my later years. Know what? They left it to one of my sisters. It's pretty bad when you can't trust your family."

Although Costner occasionally lapses into melancholy, he blames no one for the loss of his eyesight. He suspected the risks at the time, and fought anyway. "See, fighting was what I did best," he says. "And the money was good. Giving it up would've been difficult."

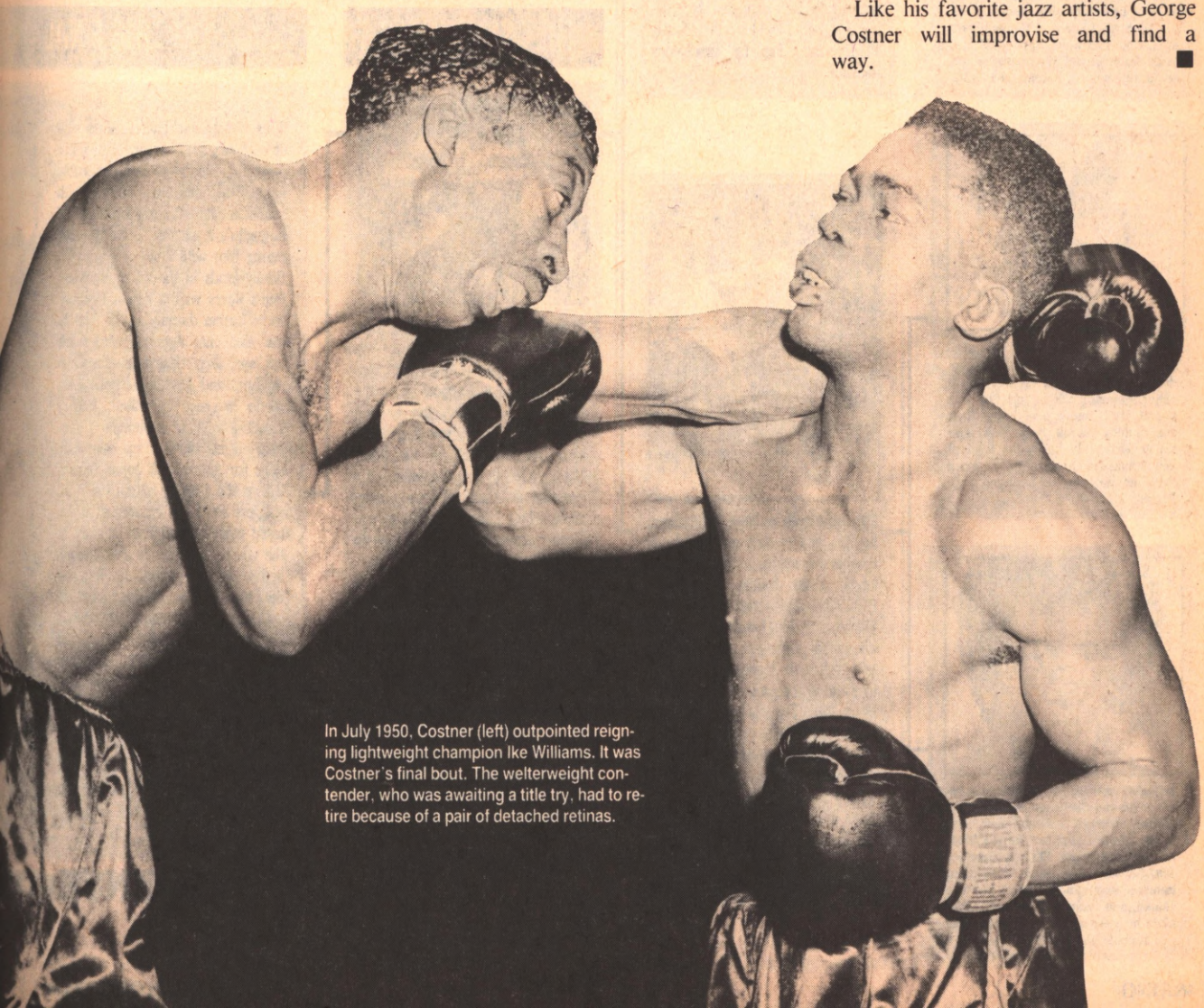
At the age of 52, Costner decided that it was time to do something more with his life than just exist. "I was never a loser by nature," he says, "and I decided that George Costner could still be somebody."

So he studied for his high school diploma and, in 1979, earned a bachelor's degree in business at Cleveland State. "I got someone to read to me every night," he says. "That, plus tapes, was how I studied all my courses. It wasn't easy, but I was graduated with honors."

After college, he was hired by the Ohio Civil Rights office in Dayton. "When someone had a complaint, I'd be the one to hear it," he says. "If it was a legitimate beef, I'd tell my supervisor, and he'd put an investigator on the case. That job gave me the sense of independence and self-esteem that I was lacking up until then."

Costner is retired now, but he'd like a new challenge. "I'd like to make speeches to the area kids—not for money or anything—but just to tell them that they can do whatever they want to do, no matter what their situation. I just haven't figured out yet how to go about it."

Like his favorite jazz artists, George Costner will improvise and find a way. ■



In July 1950, Costner (left) outpointed reigning lightweight champion Ike Williams. It was Costner's final bout. The welterweight contender, who was awaiting a title try, had to retire because of a pair of detached retinas.

THE RING ALL-TIME COMPUTER TOURNAMENT

THIS MONTH: THE FEATHERWEIGHTS

Boxing fans are forever debating the relative merits of the greatest champions in history. While ***The Ring's*** *exclusive computer tournaments aren't intended to answer all arguments, we're sure you'll find them entertaining—and as realistic as is possible.*

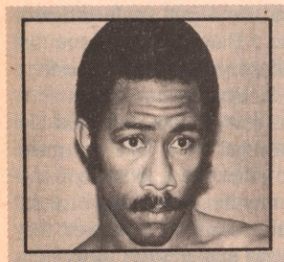
The idea is simple: Editor-in-Chief Steve Farhood, working in conjunction with tournament adviser Patrick Premo and computer programmer Jim Trunzo, chooses and matches eight champions per division. Using the program he developed for Lance Haffner Games, Trunzo then runs the 15-round matchups through his computer.

Lance Haffner's TKO Professional Boxing Game is a computer simulation of the sport of boxing. The program runs in compiled basic and consists of several thousand lines of code. More than two dozen routines and subroutines cross-check such factors as ring position, the fighters' physical condition, accumulated damage, status of cuts, and special strategy, if any, that is used. In addition, almost 100 variables are constantly monitored during a given fight.

The fighters have been rated in more than 30 categories, including obvious ones, like defense, punching accuracy, strength of chin, hitting power, and ring generalship. Less obvious, but equally important areas, that are factored into each fight are ability to take punishment over the course of a fight, susceptibility to cuts, ability to counterpunch, relative ability to cope with different styles, and the level of competition faced during a career.

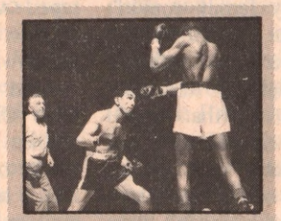
The rest is up to your imagination.

Willie Pep: Arguably the finest defensive fighter of all time . . . Started at 63-0 and lost only one of first 137 bouts . . . Won world title by outpointing Chalky Wright in November 1942 . . . Made nine successful defenses over the course of two reigns . . . 230 wins is unmatched . . . Boxed until age 43 . . . Record: 230-11-1 (65).



Eusebio Pedroza: Tall (5'8") and slick Panamanian hit without being hit . . . Not a big puncher, but scored many late-round stoppages . . . Gained reputation as dirty fighter by often punching low . . . Won WBA title via 13th-round kayo of Cecilio Lastra in April 1978 . . . Made feather-record 19 consecutive successful defenses . . . Record: 39-5-1 (24).

THE QUARTERFINALS



Pep-Pedroza: Pedroza, a splendid boxer, becomes the aggressor as Pep dances and jabs. Pedroza cuts off the ring in the early rounds. Pep gets cocky after making Pedroza miss five straight punches in the third. A cross drops the tourney favorite in the fourth. Pep's eye swells shut, but he controls the middle rounds, hurting his foe with a sixth-round right and an eighth-round hook. Pep is a one-eyed fighter at the finish, but it is Pedroza who tires, and his 15th-round rally isn't enough. The scoring: 144-142, 145-140, and 145-141, all for Pep. **Pep by unanimous decision.**

Kid Chocolate: First legend of Cuban boxing . . . Real name was Eligio Sardinias . . . Won first 52 fights . . . Took junior lightweight title in July 1931 with seventh-round stoppage of Benny Bass, and captured vacant New York State feather crown via 12th-round kayo of Lew Feldman in October 1932 . . . Made two defenses before vacating . . . Record: 132-10-6 (50).

Salvador Sanchez: Among the most beloved Mexican champions ever . . . Was 21 and unknown when he easily outboxed Danny Lopez to take the WBC title via 13th-round TKO in February 1980 . . . Made nine successful defenses, including stoppages of Lopez, Wilfredo Gomez, and Azumah Nelson . . . Was killed in a car accident in August 1982 . . . Record: 44-1-1 (32).

Chocolate-Sanchez: Both land heavily, and as early as the second, the bout becomes a war. Sanchez lands in the fourth, but in the fifth, the Kid attacks the body. Flashing quick hands, Chocolate marks his foe's left eye. Sanchez rebounds with counters, but forced to trade in the ninth, he is buckled by a left. The toe-to-toe 10th is memorable, with each landing almost every punch. The doctor visits Sanchez before the 11th. A Chocolate right floors Sanchez. Soon after, Sanchez is rescued at the 2:32 mark. The Kid is ahead on all three cards. **Chocolate by 11th-round TKO.**

THE SEMIFINALS

Pep-Chocolate: Chocolate immediately assumes the role of aggressor and begins the chase. Pep jabs until he is trapped along the ropes in the second, but he still manages to make the Kid miss. Over the first half of the fight, Pep's defense and movement are remarkable. Half of round seven expires before a punch is thrown. Then a cross hurts Pep. They go toe to toe in the eighth, with Chocolate landing more power. Chocolate continues to chase, but Pep dominates the 10th with his left. Pep starts the 11th by rushing across the ring and attacking; even when ineffective, he is clearly controlling the pace. Pep is staggered by a left-right in the 12th, but over the last two rounds, the Cuban seems spent. He rallies briefly in the 15th, but Pep won't be caught. The scores: 144-142, 144-143, and 145-144, all for Pep. **Pep by unanimous decision.**

THE FINAL

Pep-Arguello: There are no surprises. Arguello, taller and more powerful, seeks to land bombs, while Pep jabs and moves with precision. Pep takes advantage of Arguello's usual slow start by peppering him with combos. Arguello finally lands in the third, buckling Pep's knees with a cross. Pep absorbs further damage in the fourth, but also cuts Arguello under the left eye. Pep begins to dance in rhythm, and by the seventh, Arguello becomes frustrated; Pep is standing in front of him and slipping all his blows. Pep even motions for Arguello to come to him. But in the 10th, a left to the head staggers Pep. He crashes in a delayed reaction and rises shakily at the count of nine. A split second before the referee steps in, Pep rallies with a heavy hook. Arguello continues to stalk, and Pep doesn't fully recover until the 13th. In the 15th, Pep fires punches in bunches until Arguello lands a hook that shakes Pep. Pep is moving again as the final bell rings. The scoring: 143-142 Arguello, 143-142 Pep, and 144-142 Pep. **The winner and champion by split decision is Willie Pep.**

NEXT MONTH: THE LIGHTWEIGHTS

THE BIBLE OF BOXING

THE FINAL

THE SEMIFINALS

Arguello-Saddler: The combatants in the tourney's most anticipated battle show mutual respect, but only for three rounds. The pace is altered after Saddler scores a knockdown in the third. Arguello is seriously hurt and punches back just in time to prevent a TKO stoppage. The fourth is the best round of the tournament, with the feathers trading toe to toe. In the sixth, they move closer and begin to muscle each other. The bout becomes a battle of attrition. Both are hurt in the eighth, but in the ninth, two hooks to the body double over Saddler. Arguello and Saddler should be exhausted, but they refuse to stop punching. They test each other again in the 10th, and a tremendous hook fells Saddler, who barely beats the count. A right drops him again, and this time, there is no recovery. After nine rounds, the scoring is even. **Arguello by 10th-round kayo.**

THE QUARTERFINALS

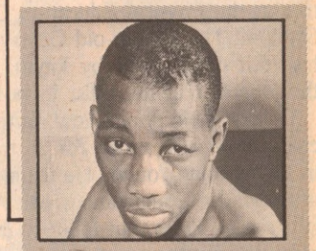
Arguello-Saldivar: It is the Mexican's plan to extend the bout into the later rounds, but the usually slow-starting Arguello forces early trades. Saldivar is hurt in the first and second, and again in the fourth. When he tries to crowd his taller foe, Arguello clinches. Arguello traps the southpaw in the fifth and scores a flash knockdown with a lead right. He accelerates in the sixth, and a right uppercut-left hook combination produces a second knockdown. Saldivar rises but offers no resistance, and the bout is halted at the 2:45 mark. **Arguello by sixth-round TKO.**

Attell-Saddler: Attell frustrates Saddler, who can't find the moving target. Saddler is warned early for various infractions. Attell is stunned by a cross in the second. Saddler motions for his foe to stand and fight early in the fourth. Saddler flings Attell into the ropes in the sixth and hurts him with a lead right uppercut. A hook splits Attell's lip in the seventh. Saddler's punches are devastating. A cross drops Attell in the 10th, and after another knockdown in the 11th, the bout is stopped at the 2:28 mark. Attell is ahead on two of the cards. **Saddler by 11th-round TKO.**

Alexis Arguello: Triple-crown titlist ranks with the best fighters of all time . . . Stood 5'10" and punched with maximum leverage . . . Was behind on points when he kayoed Ruben Olivares in the 13th round to win the WBA title in November 1974 . . . Retained crown four times before vacating . . . Subsequently won 130- and 135-pound crowns . . . Record: 80-6 (65).

Vicente Saldivar: Mexican southpaw stood only 5'3" and relied on stamina and strength . . . Never lost by decision . . . Won world title with a 12th-round stoppage of Sugar Ramos in September 1964 . . . Made seven defenses before retiring in 1967 . . . Returned in 1969, and regained crown in 1970 by outpointing Johnny Famechon . . . Record: 38-3 (27).

Abe Attell: Cocky champion rarely trained, but was a clever ringmaster . . . Won vacant crown with 20-round decision over Johnny Reagan in September 1903 . . . Dethroned in 1904, but regained title by outpointing Jimmy Walsh in 1906 . . . Made total of 22 defenses . . . Was among the architects of the 1919 Black Sox scandal . . . Record: 124-19-24 (53).



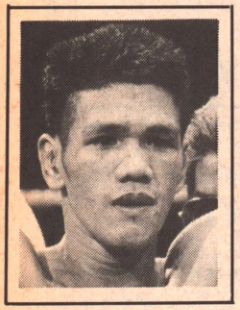
Sandy Saddler: Tall (5'8½"), powerful, and, when necessary, a ruthless rule-breaker . . . Won three of four vs. arch-rival Willie Pep . . . Fought 93 times before securing title try . . . Captured world crown by stopping Pep in four rounds in October 1948 . . . Lost rematch, then regained title and made three defenses before retiring . . . Record: 144-16-2 (103).

RINGSIDE REPORTS

FIGHTER OF THE MONTH: Rolando Pascua

Filipino 108-pound southpaw Pascua seemed as likely a candidate to pull off a major upset as . . . well, as Buster Douglas.

On December 19 at the Great Western Forum, Pascua, who entered the ring with five losses in 29 fights and a whopping kayo percentage of .333, dethroned champion Humberto "Chiquita" Gonzalez, who slipped on a banana peel en route to the Hall of Fame.



Pascua, born Rolando Tomongtong on November 19, 1965, never had an amateur fight. His pro career has been checkered, at least partly because he's fought in every division from strawweight to bantamweight. For one bout, against former world champion Jeum Hwan Choi, Pascua fought in an orthodox stance throughout the fight. Choi's promoter was under the impression that the Filipino was a right-hander. When he found out otherwise, he told Pascua, "You fight as a righty or you don't get paid."

Against Gonzalez, Pascua was paid, but only $6,500. He'll make a lot more for the rematch, and they'll probably even let him fight southpaw.

KHAOSAI GALAXY-ERNESTO FORD

PHETCHABUN, THAILAND—Dynamic lefty Galaxy, the WBA junior bantamweight champion, proved too ferocious for Panamanian Ford, as he overpowered him from the start, weakened him with his constant aggressiveness, and finished him at 2:30 of the sixth round in a scheduled 12-round title bout before 20,000 spectators at the Physical Education College Stadium. The 31-year-old Galaxy made his 16th defense (14 by kayo). He is the longest reigning titlist in boxing.

Galaxy, a notorious slow starter, uncharacteristically aimed for a stoppage in the opening round. He stunned the much taller Panamanian with solid lefts several times, but failed to end the affair. There was a reason for Galaxy's approach: A sponsor announced before the fight that he would give Galaxy 500,000 bahts (about $20,000) if the champion scored a first-round knockout.

Despite his failure to finish Ford in the first three minutes, the Thai Tyson kept punching and had him backpedaling in the second round. Ford, 25, resembled former lightweight titlist Ismael Laguna in style. The challenger, 22-2 (13), withstood Galaxy's opening attacks and tried to score to the body during the third session. In round four, Ford occasionally retaliated with good body shots, but also absorbed smashing lefts. Two judges gave this round to the challenger.

Galaxy maintained the pressure, but Ford, with his flexible upper body, averted most of the punches. In the sixth, the aggressive champion came forward and pinned Ford with jabs and straight lefts, followed by vicious hooks. At that point, Ford's footwork stopped. Seconds later, Galaxy exploded a well-timed left to the point of the chin, and the Panamanian knelt down. Referee Waldemar Schmidt didn't bother counting, and the loser made no attempt to pull himself up.

After the fight, Galaxy, 46-1 (41), announced that he would get married to his Japanese sweetheart, Ymiko Ota, after three more defenses. Venezuelan David Griman Mendez, a fast-moving technician, is waiting for his turn to fight Galaxy in a mandatory defense. Galaxy still looks unbeatable when he fights in his homeland.

In the semifinal, unbeaten Chana Porpaoin, the WBA's third-ranked minimumweight contender, rose to 18-0 (10), as he took a unanimous decision over Nikki Maca, a tough Filipino, in 10. Porpaoin is gunning for a crack at the WBA throne held by Bong Jun Kim.

Promoter: Niwat Laosuwanwat (12-9-90)

Joe Koizumi

LEOPARD TAMAKUMA-JESUS ROJAS

AOMORI, JAPAN—Tall southpaw Tamakuma, 111½, attacked former champion Rojas, 111¼, and looked to have won, but was held to a split draw and barely retained the WBA flyweight throne over 12 hot rounds at Aomori Prefectural General Athletic Park Gymnasium. About 8,000 fans attended their favorite's first defense. The scoring: Hwang Soo Kim (Korea), 117-114 Tamakuma, Elias Quintana (USA) and Rodolfo Hill (Panama), 114-114 and 115-115, respectively.

Rojas, 26, is six days younger than the champion. The 5'8" Tamakuma started aggressively and befuddled the challenger in the first round. The second session, however, was taken by Rojas, 20-2-2 (9), who pinned Tamakuma to the ropes and shook him with a sharp left hook. The upright Tamakuma was in command in round three, landing short punches in combination. Despite his gifted height and reach, Tamakuma likes mixing it up. In the fourth and fifth rounds, Tamakuma was again pinned to the ropes by the Venezuelan, though he retaliated with short punches.

Encouraged by his manager, Yoshinori Takahashi, Tamakuma took the

Tamakuma reaches for Rojas

sixth and seventh stanzas with accurate rallies. The eighth saw signs of Rojas' fatigue, while Tamakuma remained aggressive. Tamakuma, 26-4-1 (12), dominated the ninth and 10th, as he connected with straight lefts and southpaw hooks. But Rojas' determination was witnessed in the last two rounds, which he took by small margins.

"I thought I won the fight," Tamakuma said, "because I scored more effective blows. But I am happy that I could keep the world title."

Ivan Morales, Venezuela, 113½, caught Rey Cogonon, the top Filipino junior bantamweight contender, 113½, and halted him at 2:14 of the sixth round in a scheduled 10. Morales looks a vastly talented boxer who will zoom up the ratings in the near future.

Suzuharu Kitazawa, the JBC's 10th-ranked junior bantamweight, 115, came off the canvas and stopped Renato Cabato, Philippines, 115, at 2:50 of the second round in a scheduled eight.

Tomonori Tamura, 111½, won a unanimous decision over Nolito Cabato, Philippines, 113, in six. Tamura, handled by former WBA featherweight champion Shozo Saijo, is 11-2 (8).

Promoter: Kokusai and Teiken Promotions
(12-6-90)

Joe Koizumi

ROLANDO PASCUA-HUMBERTO GONZALEZ

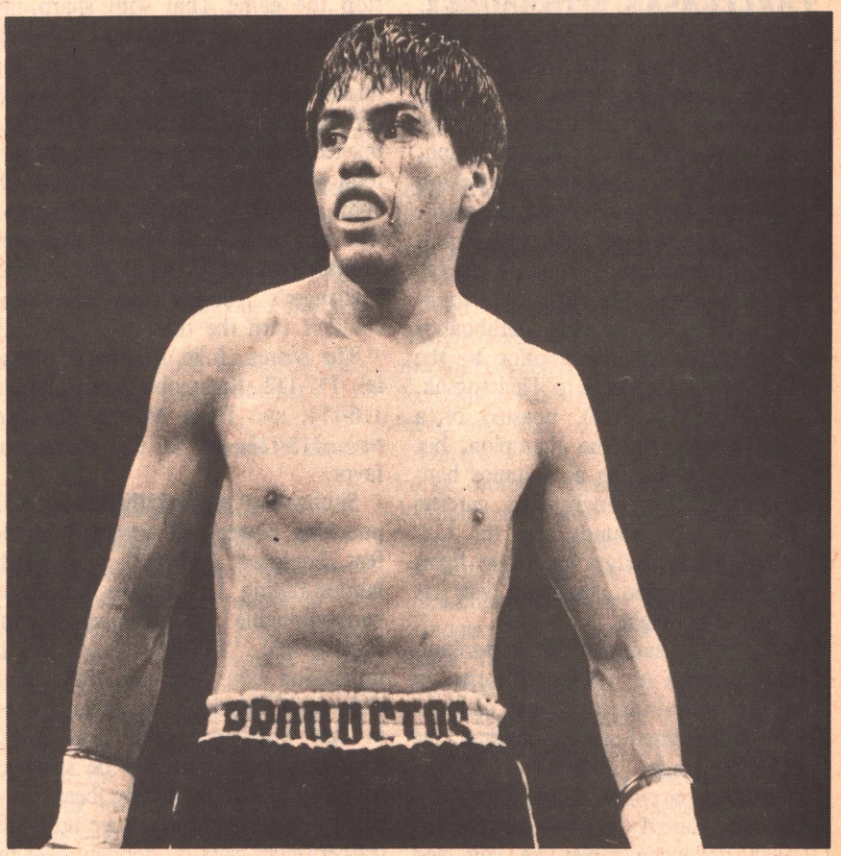
INGLEWOOD, CALIFORNIA—The memory of Gonzalez lying flat out on the canvas after being flattened by no-hoper Pascua in the sixth round of their WBC light flyweight title fight will stay with most ringsiders for a long time. The partisan crowd of 7,191 had come to see their hero take out the Filipino challenger. Instead they saw a fighter who accepted all the Mexican slugger had to offer, and dished out some of his own offense to wear down the champion.

Gonzalez came out looking for a knockout, setting up power shots by working the body, but Pascua stood solid, landing stiff jabs and combinations to the head. By the second round, it was obvious that Pascua was gaining in confidence and was unfazed by the aggression of Gonzalez. In the third, Gonzalez was cut on the left eyelid by an accidental headbutt. With his blood flowing freely in the fourth, Gonzalez lost patience and tried to end the bout with a relentless assault that had the crowd screaming.

Both men were exhausted by their efforts and rested in the much slower fifth. In the sixth, however, they picked up where they had left off. Gonzalez was visibly tiring when Pascua hurt him with a body shot. A followup series of head shots then sent Gonzalez crashing to the canvas. He made no effort to get up and was counted out by referee Marty Sammon at 2:24 of the sixth round.

Pascua improved to 25-5 (9), while Gonzalez suffered his first defeat as a pro or amateur, falling to 29-1 (23). A closer look at Pascua's record, however, indicates that some of his defeats, including an abysmal decision loss to Napa Kiatwanchai, were hometown decisions.

Middleweight Reggie Johnson continued his path toward a world title shot with a third-round stoppage of outclassed Brazilian Jose DaSilva. Johnson, 159¾, Long Beach, worked the body and took control early. A right floored DaSilva in the second, and although he was more stunned than hurt, the Brazilian found himself on the retreat. Johnson picked up the pace in the third, and the referee quickly tired of the one-sided proceed-



Chiquita's sixth defense was a bloody mess

ings and called a halt after 58 seconds of the round. It was a solid, workmanlike performance by Johnson, 28-1-1 (19). DaSilva, 165¾, Pernambunco, falls to 13-5 (6). He is the South American junior middleweight and Brazilian middleweight champion.

Light heavyweight Bomani Parker, 177½, Richmond, California, stopped Grover Robinson, 179½, Fremont, California, in the 10th. Parker, who rallied as the bout progressed, is 11-0 (7).

Steve Mwema, 117½, Los Angeles, scored a third-round technical decision over Arturo Mendoza, 117½, Mexico City.

Cecelio Espino, 113¼, Monterey Park, decisioned Jose Diaz, 112¼, Mexicali, over six.

Melvin James, 180, Los Angeles, decisioned Louie Ornelas, 179½, Carson, over four.

Steve McWilliams, 150¼, Palmdale, fought to a first-round technical draw vs. Mohamed Benchikh, 153, France.

Promoter: Forum Boxing

Matchmaker: Antonio Curtis

(12-19-90)

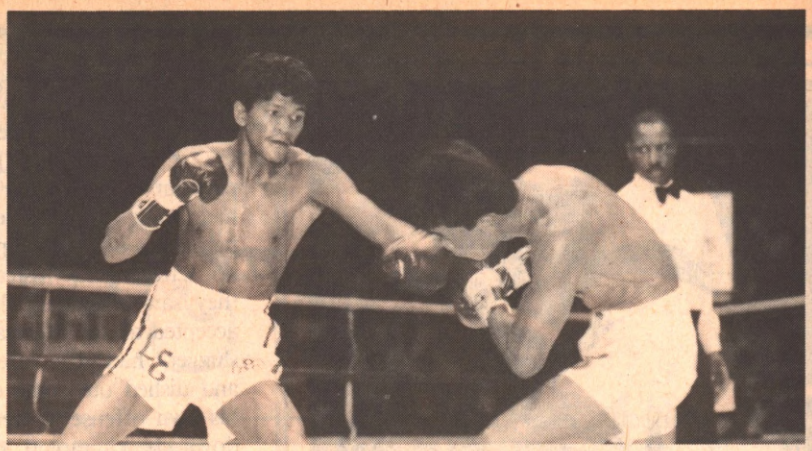
Michael Hepworth

LUISITO ESPINOSA-THALERNSAK SITHBAOBEY

BANGKOK, THAILAND—Tall Filipino Espinosa, 118, displayed his awesome punching power and exceptional reach, dropped Thai challenger Sithboabey, 118, in the fourth round, and pounded out a unanimous decision in 12 rounds at Rajadamnern Stadium.

It was a very good fight, with Espinosa, 23, proving superior in speed, skill, and power. Due to a Thai tradition, the 25-year-old Sithboabey changed his first name prior to the fight from Thanomsak to Thalerngsak. Sithbaobey, 31-1 (16), boasted of a better record than the champion, but he had been fighting as a junior bantamweight. Surprisingly, the careless Thai was nine pounds over the 118-pound limit three days before the fight, while the Filipino champion was six pounds overweight.

The 5'8" champion is a bantamweight version of Thomas Hearns. In the first three rounds he was cautious and concentrated on outjabbing the Thai challenger. Sithbaobey looked content to parry the champion's jabs. Espinosa started his fireworks in the fourth, throwing rapier-like jabs and straight rights at the defensive Thai. Effectively landing left and right uppercuts, Espinosa exploded a well-timed one-two combination to the face, and Sithboabey fell to the canvas. He easily beat the count, and Espinosa realized that he hadn't hurt the Thai that badly.



Espinosa keeps Sithbaobey at bay

The challenger, ordered by his cornermen to become aggressive, attacked from the fifth round on. The fleet-footed champion, however, sidestepped and countered. The sixth saw Sithbaobey begin streaming blood from a cut on the right eyelid. The Thai dominated the seventh round, as he forced the champion to backpedal.

In the eighth, Espinosa attempted to stop the game Thai with sharp jabs and countering rights, most of which were missing. The champion was turned loose in the ninth, and he connected with solid lefts and rights that opened Sithbaobey's cut. It became a total war. They traded hot rallies in the 10th and 11th, and it was Espinosa who dominated with heavier and more precise punches. The 12th was the challenger's round, but his effort couldn't turn the tide.

The scores: Julio Roldan (Venezuela), 117-112, Kazunobu Asao (Japan), 116-114, and Eung Myung Bae (Korea), 115-113, all in the champion's favor.

Sithbaobey praised the champion's punching power and admitted his defeat. Espinosa, 26-5 (13), may be the hardest-hitting 118-pounder among all bantamweights. His manager, Hermie Rivera, said, "Luisito will go for the unification bout with the IBF champ Orlando Canizales next spring, either in San Francisco or in Las Vegas. American fight fans will be surprised to see Luisito onesidedly beat Canizales, and then he will move up to the featherweight class by stepping over the 122-pound division. He has such a severe weight problem; he is still growing."

Promoter: Niwat Laosuwanwat

WBA witness: Julio Castillo (Venezuela)

(11-29-90)

Joe Koizumi

RAUL PEREZ-CHANGUITO CARMONA

TIJUANA, MEXICO—Either "Jibaro" Perez was very, very good, or Carmona was very, very bad, and the former is more likely. Whichever, Perez served notice once more that he remains the force among 118-pounders.

Risking the WBC bantamweight title for the seventh time, Perez was coming off a disputed draw with fellow Mexican "Pepillo" Valdez. Carmona vacated the Mexican bantamweight crown for a crack at Perez' crown; the second-ranked WBC challenger should have stuck with the title he had.

Perez wound up with possibly his easiest defense and upped his record to 48-1-2. He won the first seven rounds on the cards of two judges, and was ahead 69-64 on the third card. In the eighth, the champion floored Carmona with a left to the head after a series of blows. Referee Memo Ayou's 10-count ended the fight at 2:17 of the round.

"It was not as easy as it may have looked," the 23-year-old champion said afterward as reporters flicked lighters to take notes in a dressing room without electricity. Perez' left eye was puffy and discolored; he blamed his wound on Carmona's head.

Perez' manager, Ignacio "Nacho" Huizar, was pleased that his man had handled Carmona so easily. "Carmona spent a lot of time on the ropes," he said. "He probably didn't realize how strong Jibaro really is, until it was too late.

"IBF champion Orlando Canizales doesn't want to fight," Huizar contin-

ued. "We'll probably fight [next] in the Forum, we think maybe Greg Richardson."

Carmona, 45-7-1, needed stitches to sew up a cut on his left eye.

Contrary to the challenger's opinion, he was never really a threat to Perez. The champion from Mexicali took control in the first round with his reach advantage, scoring with beautiful jabs and rights to the body. Carmona, not sure how to attack, was caught off-balance by a right in the second round, and his glove touched the canvas, but Ayou ruled a slip.

By the third round, the crowd of nearly 4,000 in Auditorio de Tijuana was booing the ineffectiveness and hesitation of the challenger from Acapulco. Perez seemed to lack knockout power, but he continued to wear down Carmona. By the end of the seventh, Carmona was almost finished, and only the bell saved him after Perez put together a left uppercut and right to the head.

Perez continued his assault in the eighth until Carmona finally dropped, as much from an accumulation of punches as from the last blow.

Former Mexican lightweight champion Javier "Zorrito" Altamirano took a majority decision over hometown hero Luis "Buki" Mora in a 10-round duel. Altamirano was knocked to one knee by a right to the head in the fourth, but returned the favor in the following round, dropping Mora just before the bell with a right to the jaw.

Ricardo "Halcon" Vazquez, Tijuana, won by TKO at 1:44 of the second over Paulino Gonzalez in a six-round lightweight bout.

Jesus Mayorga, Culiacan, beat Victor Mendoza, Tijuana, by TKO at 2:52 of the first in a six-round lightweight fight.

In a four-round featherweight contest, Ricardo Franco won via TKO at 1:58 of the second over Martin Mora. (12-17-90)

Bruce Williams

JORGE PAEZ-JAVIER MARQUEZ

MEXICALI, MEXICO—Paez returned to the Plaza Calafia bullring in Mexicali for the first time in nearly two years and, before a Sunday afternoon crowd of nearly 10,000, stopped Mexicali rival "Changa" Marquez at 2:04 of the third round. The non-title triumph raised the IBF featherweight champion's record to 37-3-3 (26). Marquez, who had been stopped in a recent try at Marcos Villasana's WBC featherweight title, fell to 39-10-4. Paez struggled in the opening round. Marquez' nose was bloodied by a two-fisted attack in the opening minute, but he fought back and hurt Paez late in the first round with a left-right to the face. Paez recovered, however, and Marquez, more of a stylist than a puncher, was worn down quickly.

The end came rapidly in the third. Paez connected with uppercuts, then forced Marquez to a neutral corner, where he continued to beat on his game but outgunned rival until referee Fernando Sorroza stopped the slaughter. Paez, was once employed Paez as a sparring partner for Marquez, came away from the infighting with a small cut on his left eyebrow. It was his first win by knockout since he stopped Lupe Gutierrez in December 1989.

Plans are for Paez to face former 130-pound titlist John-John Molina on the undercard of the junior lightweight unification match between IBF champion Tony Lopez and WBA king Brian Mitchell in March. Should Paez win, he would likely remain at 130. He has a mandatory featherweight title defense scheduled for May, but he weighed 131 for Marquez (Marquez scaled 133), and probably won't return to the featherweight ranks.

"Famosito" Gomez, 21-0 (17), stopped Jose Luis Herrera at 2:56 of the sixth round; flyweights.

Eduardo Perez stopped Benny Medina in the second round; super featherweights.

Samuel Martinez scored a third-round TKO over Jose Luis Bedolla; welterweights.

Raul Franco stopped Leonardo Valdez in five; super featherweights. (1-6-91)

Bruce Williams

VIRGIL HILL-MIKE PEAK

BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA—Over 12 mostly tedious rounds at the Civic Center, challenger Peak landed only 99 of 306 punches against WBA light heavyweight king Hill. That's hardly a prescription for knocking off any champion in his backyard.

Hill, on the other hand, was quite busy during his 10th title defense, firing 895 punches and making it easy for the judges to render their decision unanimous. Peak's manager, Biscuit Roberts, pleaded with his charge to get busier, but it was impossible for the challenger to get off against a perpetual motion machine like Hill, 175, who advanced to 30-0.

Peak, 174, 13-4-2, accidentally butted Hill just 30 seconds into the first round, opening flesh under the champion's left eye, then followed with some bombs. But Hill got busy with his jab, and Peak didn't do much more than block some of them.

The scores were 120-108, 120-108, and 119-109.

After that tiny bit of first-round fireworks, the bout settled into a steady pattern: Hill jabs, Peak blocks. Peak charged a couple of times, but Hill spun expertly. There were no knockdowns. Both men couldn't resist showboating in the middle rounds, forcing veteran third man Eddie Eckert to warn the fighters between rounds, especially Hill, who had gestured obscenely.

Prospect "Cool" Vincent Phillips, 141, 18-0, Las Vegas, looked sluggish in unanimously decisioning Tim Bonds, 140, 20-8, Oklahoma City, over eight rounds.

Scotty "Bulldog" Olson, 110½, 11-0 (9), Las Vegas, smashed up Jose Diaz, 112, 24-20, Calexico, with a fourth-frame whackout at the 1:20 mark.

Buck Smith, 156, 61-2, Oklahoma City, blasted sorry Kevin Anderson, 160, 14-6 Wichita, ending matters in 1:47 of the first.

Sonny Brennan, 164, 7-0-1, Dunseith, fired two right hands to the body of rugged Bob Gonyea, 158, 3-2, Butte, Montana, finishing him at 1:52 of the second.

John "Hogman" Sargent, 246, 10-0, Naytahwaush, Minnesota, can thump and looked determined in unanimously decisioning Ross Puritty, 248, 3-3, El Paso, over six.

Harold Miller, 136, 12-3, Grand Forks, scored a unanimous four-round decision over Blaine Biers, 136½, 3-4, Rochester, Minnesota.

Promoter: Top Rank

Matchmaker: Bruce Trampler

Judges: Doug Tucker, Luis Rivera, Nicasio Drake

Referees: Eddie Eckert, Ron Stander, Vic Drakulich, Steve Thomasson

Announcer: Michael Buffer

Timekeeper: Colleen Patchin

Physician: Dr. Bob Oatfield

Attendance: 7,400

Television: ESPN

(1-6-91)

Doug Nassif ■

WORLDWIDE RESULTS

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Riddick Bowe KO 1 Tony Morrison
Ray Mercer KO 9 Francesco Damiani
Tommy Morrison KO 1 James Tillis
Bruce Seldon KO 3 Jose Ribalta
Gary Mason KO 9 James Pritchard
Pierre Coetzer KO 10 Kimmuel Odum
Trevor Berbick KO 5 Bobby Crabtree
Conroy Nelson KO 7 Ken Lakusta
Michael Greer W 10 Frankie Swindell

CRUISERWEIGHTS
Magne Havnaa W 12 Daniel Netto
Phillip Jackson KO 1 Olian Alexander

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Prince Charles Williams W 12 Mwehu Beya
(Retains IBF Title)
Virgil Hill W 12 Mike Peak
(Retains WBA Title)
Tom Collins KO 2 Christophe Girard
Bomani Parker KO 10 Grover Robinson
Leeonzer Barber KO 3 Jim MacDonald
Ramzi Hassan KO 1 Marcos Geraldo
Aundrey Nelson W 12 Tony Harrison

SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Lindell Holmes W 12 Sugar Boy Malinga
(Retains IBF Title)
Lenzi Morgan W 10 Randy Smith
Godwin Anyamene W 12 Miguel Mosna

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
James Toney W 12 Merqui Sosa
James Toney KO 5 Carlos Silva
Reggie Johnson KO 3 Jose DaSilva
Darrin Van Horn W 10 Randy Williams
Gerald McClellan KO 1 Danny Mitchell

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Gilbert Dele W 8 Orlando Orozco
Lloyd Honeyghan KO 4 Mario Olmedo
Mario Gaston KO 9 Pedro Montenegro
Jun Sok Hwang W 10 Yoshinori Nishizawa
Luis Vasquez W 10 Tony Montgomery

WELTERWEIGHTS
Glenwood Brown KO 4 Julian Benitez
Genaro Leon D 8 Judas Clottey
Jeff Malcolm KO 2 Enrique Mercado
Antoine Fernandez KO 5 Willie Beattie
Gert Bo Jacobsen KO 5 Felix Dubray

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS
Juan Coggi W 10 Jesus Gil
Roger Mayweather KO 3 Santos Moreno
Charles Murray W 12 David Taylor
Marco Lizarraga W 10 Primo Ramos
Vernon Phillips KO 9 Marcelo DiCroce
Ildemar Paisan KO 12 Vinny Burgese
Jake Rodriguez W 10 John Rafuse

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Greg Haugen W 10 Billy Young
Iwao Otomo W 12 Bernabe Aliping
Vernon Phillips KO 4 Hugo Vilte
Tim Brooks W 12 David Santos

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS
Daniel Londas W 12 Gianni DiNapoli
Julio Miranda W 12 Faustino Barrios
Roberto Granciosa KO 2 Mario Gomez

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Jorge Paez KO 3 Javier Marquez
(Non-Title Bout)
Maurizio Stecca KO 2 Darryl Jones
Lupe Gutierrez W 12 Jesus Poll
Kennedy McKinney KO 5 Adrian Arreola
Miguel Francia D 10 Sergio Martinez

JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHTS
Tracy Patterson KO 3 Albert Rendon
Happy Lora W 10 Bernardo Mendoza

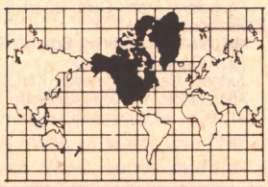
BANTAMWEIGHTS
Raul Perez KO 8 Changuito Carmona
(Retains WBC Title)
Orlando Canizales W 10 Francisco Ortiz
(Non-Title Bout)
Javier Leon KO 8 Cesar Decenes
Kiyoshi Hatanaka KO 8 Ric Bajelot
Joichiro Tatsuyoshi KO 2 Jun Cardinal
Eliecer Julio KO 10 Robert Schoening
Donnie Hood KO 4 David Moreno
Roberto Chavez W 10 Lee Cargle
Virgilio Openo KO 1 Jose Moreno

FLYWEIGHTS
Yuri Arbachakov KO 2 Rolando Bohol

LIGHT FLYWEIGHTS
Rolando Pascua KO 6 Humberto Gonzalez
(Wins WBC Title)

STRAWWEIGHTS
Ala Villamor KO 9 Yasuo Yogi

The RING AROUND THE WORLD



NORTH AMERICA

UNITED STATES

ARIZONA

PHOENIX—Celebrity Theater—**Carlos Lopez**, 156½, won a six-round split decision over **Jose Cataneo Hudson**, 158.

Ancee Gedeon, 126, 7-1, dropped a majority four-round decision to Julian Ramirez, 126.

Anthony Fernandez, 130, scored a second-round TKO over a game Jimmy Newton, 135, who was making his pro debut.

Mario Lopez, 147, stopped Bryan Davenport, 146½, at 1:28 of the first round.

Cassius Clay Horne, 147, won a an exciting eight-round unanimous decision over Anthony Stevens, 145½.
(12-18-90)

CALIFORNIA

INGLEWOOD—The Great Western Forum—Unbeaten super featherweight **Genaro Hernandez**, 130½, Los Angeles, 22-0 (11), stopped **Rodolfo Gomez**, 132, Mexico, in the fifth round of their scheduled 10-rounder. It was close for the first four rounds, with a cautious Hernandez content to let Gomez come to him. But in the fifth, Hernandez connected with a huge right that floored Gomez. The Mexican surprised everyone by rising at the count of eight. But the referee nevertheless stepped in shortly afterward. Hernandez has been showing increasing punching power of late. Gomez, who once had championship potential, fell to 21-6 (19). The Forum will be looking for a world title fight for Hernandez sometime this year. At this stage, there is no telling just how good he is.

Ed "Pee Wee" Parker, 21-5-3 (8), has had some good nights at the Forum. Parker, 128¾, Houston, put on an entertaining show as usual against Manuel "Mantecas" Medina, 128, Mexico, but came out on the wrong end of the majority 10-round verdict. The fight was close throughout, with the younger Medina forcing the pace and Parker counterpunching. Medina, 37-3 (17), is looking for a fight with WBC featherweight champion Marcos Villasana.

Jose Martinez, 127, Hanford, 15-4-1 (8), decisioned Vincent Gonzalez, 127¼, Mexico, over 10. It was the best fight of the night.

Jose Castro, 136, Santa Ana, stopped Tony West, 138, Palm Desert, in two.

Elio Dominguez, 118, Los Angeles, kayoed Rafael Martinez, 119¾, Hanford, in four.

Rafael Vargas, 135, Tijuana, drew with Salvador Montes, 135, Mexico, over four.

Matchmaker: Antonio Curtis
(12-6-90)

RESEDA—Country Club—A packed house was on hand to witness the first all-heavyweight show in 33 years in California. The comebacking **Orlin Norris**, 220, Campo, was featured against **Tony Willis**, 189, Chicago, who was coming off a couple of upset wins. Willis, 19-2 (15), spent the first five rounds running from the one-dimensional Norris, catching him from time to time with good-looking combinations. There was no power, however, on Willis' punches, and he began slowing down in the sixth. The crowd became frustrated and started to leave.

Those who left missed an exciting eighth. A left floored Willis (more a push than a punch). Norris, 27-2 (13), followed up with big shots to the head and body. Although Willis survived the eighth, he refused to come out for the ninth, complaining of a broken rib.

The best fight of the night saw local hotshot Jimmy Ellis, 227, Redondo Beach, extremely fortunate to come away with a draw against the cagey Greg Gorrell, 206, Wichita, 23-10-1 (17). Ellis, 13-0-1 (12), landed the heavier punches throughout the entertaining eight-rounder, but Gorrell was always the better boxer. Like Willis, however, Gorrell gave away too much in weight. Both opened up in the final round, and the crowd responded well.

Carl Williams, 222, Milwaukee, TKO'd Troy Baudoin, 214, Los Angeles, at 2:21 of the fourth round.

Glen Sagen had a disastrous pro debut, as he was stopped cold in the first round by Rocky Pepeli, 225, Burbank, 9-2 (9). Sagen, 215, Bakersfield, needed five minutes to recover.

David Kilgour, 193, Somis, TKO'd J.R. Frye, 194, Phoenix, in four.

Matchmaker: Thomas Brown
(12-11-90)

Michael Hepworth

COLORADO

DENVER—Indoor Sports Arena—**Larry Bonds**, 147, Denver, became the latest advanced age boxer to try to reclaim some glory when he won a 15-round split decision over a tough **Tony Biglen**, 147, Northglenn. Bonds displayed enough technique to win by scores of 145-143 and 147-139, while losing 146-138 on the card of one of Biglen's former stablemates. *The Ring* scored 145-142 for Bonds.

Bonds showed some flash of his former self but was light years from the form he displayed in his noble stand against Sugar Ray Leonard in 1981. Biglen fought unceasingly, and smartly whacked Bonds to the body instead of swinging at his elusive head. Bonds, however, was by far the superior technician, and despite periods where his 40-year-old knees looked ready to swoon, the old craftsman was able to fend off his younger and stronger opponent. A cut over Biglen's eye helped Bonds in his effort.

The referee was the same Danny Ross who was knocked out earlier on the card. The 15-round limit represents one of the ersatz championships which Denver is prone to hosting.

Berry Basler, 184, Denver, fighting while on suspension from the state of Nevada, floored Ross in the third and caused a TKO stoppage in the fourth with a barrage of unanswered punches. Ross, 192, Denver is 3-9-1; Basler 4-2.

Promoter: Vern Stevenson

Attendance: 400 (estimated)
(12-1-90)

Ed Walsh

DELAWARE

NEW CASTLE—William Penn High—It was both a revival and a homecoming, as boxing returned to Delaware for the first time since 1986. The officials had to be imported, but not the talent, as a kid who fought a prelim on the last card returned to headline at the school from which he'd graduated. **Dave Tiberi**, who hosts his own local TV talk show and spearheads local fund raisers, was rewarded with a packed house.

A bruising inside slugger of late, Tiberi, 158, New Castle, reverted to his early fleetfooted, peppery style in soundly whipping flatfooted **Danny Mitchell**, 161¾, Pittsburgh. The action was plentiful, albeit one-sided. Mitchell's best shot was a low blow, which earned Tiberi a rest from referee Steve Smoger in the fourth. With the pace quickening as time ran out, the invader opened a cut over Tiberi's left eye in the ninth. But cutman Eddie Aliano easily fixed it between rounds, and Tiberi closed the show by stunning Mitchell with a left hook in the final session. Bob Palmer scored 99-91, while Carol Polis and Lynne Carter both had 100-91.

The top prelim was the kind of thing that can only occur on shows like this. A four-rounder for the "Unofficial Delaware State Cruiserweight Title" was spiritedly contested between Wilmington's George Wilson, 196, and Jerry Rash, 196½, who doesn't even live in Delaware, but across the border in Elkton, Maryland. Rash garnered the unanimous win, and presumably the title, after the smoke cleared on a wild and woolly pier-sixer highlighted by the grimacing Wilson sticking out his face and allowing Rash to bash him! Referee: Bob Palmer.

A rematch had blond brawler Tommy Pyfer, 177, Clifton Heights, Pennsylvania, avenging a draw with speckle-bleached Galactus Wiz (Worthy Hendrix), 172½, Philadelphia, six. The normally cumbersome Pyfer launched a beauty of an overhand right to drop Wiz in the first, with the game Galactus never getting back in the fight despite a proud effort, and losing the unanimous decision. Referee: Smoger.

Now under the banner of Tiberi's manager Mark Kondrath, Ed Mack, 176¾, Philadelphia, continued rebuilding by winning a good six-round unanimous decision over tough Leon Taylor, 183¾, Brooklyn. The shifty Taylor tormented Mack with dipping shoulders and short, sneaky counters. But the vigorous Mack managed to outmuscle him, as Taylor tired and stopped punching. Referee: Smoger.

Curtis Mathis, 134, Philadelplhia, appeared lucky to get a unanimous decision over returning Doug Pettiford, 133, Wilmington, in a hard-fought six. The switch-hitting Mathis was flashy in spurts, though a lot of it was mere motion, while Pettiford stayed busy in a less stylish manner, but was slowed a step by rust. Referee: Palmer.

Former collegiate wrestler Herbie Chapman, 161¾, Wilmington, tried his hand at boxing, but was turned back on a majority decision by Eduardo Calderon, 160, Lancaster, in a sizzling four. Chapman started well, and had Calderon hurt in the third. But Calderon came back with body shots to drop Chapman for what proved the margin of victory. Referee: Palmer.

Promoter: Peltz Boxing

Matchmaker: J. Russell Peltz

Attendance: 1,200 (estimated)
(11-10-90)

J.R. Jowett

FLORIDA

DAYTONA BEACH—Desert Inn—**Daryl Fromm**, 170, Holly Hill, had an easy time against warhorse **David McCluskey**, 167, Vandiver, Alabama, as he gained a clear-cut unanimous decision (99-91 twice and 98-92) over 10 rounds to advance to 23-5. McCluskey slipped to 14-13.

Heavyweight Tim Anderson, 227¼, Pompano Beach, pounded out an eight-round decision over Greg Payne, 202¾, Apopka. All three judges scored 80-72. Anderson improved to 35-9-1; Payne 14-13-2.

Powerpunching Daryl Pinckney, 123½, Hollywood, blasted out an overmatched Robert Lee Woods, 125½, Shelby, North Carolina, at 25 seconds of the second round, scheduled for six. Pinckney, who has been on a roll, is 14-7-1; Woods 4-3.

Promising Duran Williams, 164½, Fort Lauderdale, remained unbeaten at 5-0 with a TKO of Tony Wellington, 157¾, Shelby, North Carolina, at 2:01 of the first, scheduled for four. Wellington is 1-4.

Ian Garrett, 155¼, Winter Haven, gained a majority decision over Lorenzo Bouie, 153½, Daytona Beach, over four rounds. Garrett moved to 3-2-1; Bouie 4-3.

Dennis Ardley, 160, Tallahassee, garnered a four-round split decision over Chuck Edwards, 162, Daytona Beach. Ardley is 2-0; Edwards 4-3.

Alex Stephens, 165¾, Fort Lauderdale, knocked out Jimmy Lee Garrett, 161, Whiteford, South Carolina, at 1:00 of the second round, scheduled for four. Stephens is 3-1; Garrett 2-9-1.

Promoter: Sun City Entertainment
(11-30-90)

TAMPA—Hyatt Regency-Downtown—Unheralded **Kevin Casimir**, 172, New Orleans, upset heavily favored and previously unbeaten **Adolpho Washington**, 177½, Miami, winning a 10-round split decision. The scores were 96-95 (twice) for Casimir and 97-95 for Washington. Casimir improved to 13-5; Washington 12-1.

In one of two supporting eight-rounders, world-ranked featherweight Frisco Arreola, 122, Tampa, overcame a nasty cut over one eye in the second round to record a unanimous but unimpressive win over Tony Pruitt, 125½, St. Louis. All three judges scored 80-72, but Arreola, 21-1-2, did not look particularly sharp against Pruitt, 10-7.

In the other eight-rounder, Mark Smith, 130, Chattanooga, Tennessee, 13-0, stopped Mario Augustine, 128, Homestead, at 1:47 of the eighth. Augustine is 15-10.

Alex Quiroga, 140, Miami, gained a four-round unanimous decision over George Kellman, 138½, Miami, to improve to 2-0. Kellman is 2-4.

Fred Adams, 2-0, 196, St. Petersburg, spoiled the pro debut of James Thurber, 192, Coconut Creek, via four-round unanimous decision.

Another St. Petersburg fighter, Ronald Wright, 2-0, 150, stopped debuting Christopher Conrad, 154, Port St. Lucie, at 1:31 of the first, scheduled for four.

Isiah Slaughter, 191, Pahokee, made a successful pro debut with a four-round unanimous decision over rugged but limited Kenny Bentley, 192, Chattanooga. Bentley is said to be 28-14.

Promoter: Alessi Promotions
(11-28-90)

Ken Knox

GEORGIA

DECATUR—Libra Ballroom—**Ricky Stackhouse**, 164, scored a fifth-round TKO over **Larry Prather**, 164.

Pat Johnson, 142, outpointed Bruce Nuby, 139, over six good rounds.

Matthew Charleston, 159, Atlanta, kayoed Anthony Kyle, 162, in the first round of a scheduled four.

Garrett Anderson, 169, stopped Reggie Shook, 173, in the first round.

David Taylor, 150, kayoed Timmy Kyle, 154, in thee rounds.

Bo Carter, 190, stopped Anthony Page, 180, in the first round.

Promoter: Peachtree Productions
Matchmaker: Jerry Hill
Judges: Kevin Corcoran, Bobby Ezor
Referees: Al Pruitt, Jim Korb
Attendance: 400 (estimated)
(11-29-90)

DECATUR—Libra Ballroom—**Romallis Ellis**, 146, Ellenwood, floored **Robert Dixon**, 146, Dallas, twice with left hooks and finished him at 2:12 of the fourth round in a scheduled eight-rounder. Ellis, a 1988 Olympian, is 15-0; Dixon 16-12.

Homer Gibbins, 140, Riverdale, 4-1, kayoed Billy Outley, 138, Nashville, Tennessee, 4-6, in the third round.

Garrett Anderson, 163, Atlanta, 3-0, scored a third-round kayo over Willie Ealey, 163, Memphis, Tennessee, 4-3.

David Taylor, 150, Atlanta, 23-12-2, stopped Chris Hopper, 156, Shelby, North Carolina, 8-3, in the second round.

Localite Matthew Charleston, 158, stopped Dwayne Lattimore, Shelby, in 51 seconds. Charleston is 2-0.

In a heavyweight matchup, Mike Dixon, 203, Atlanta, kayoed Kevin Poindexter, 203, Memphis, in the second round.

Promoter: Peachtree Productions
Matchmaker: Jerry Hill
Judges: Irwin Deutsch, Bobby Ezor, Kevin Corcoran
Attendance: 600 (estimated)
(12-20-90)

HAWAII

HONOLULU—Sheraton Waikiki Hotel Ballroom—**Roberto Granciosa**, 128½, showed his progress in scoring a TKO over **Mario Gomez**, Texas, 128¾, at 1:42 of the second round in a scheduled 10. Referee Elichi Jumawan declared a halt when Granciosa floored Gomez in the fatal session. The winner is 28-11-3; the loser 29-12-2.

Aussie Jeff Malcolm, 146¾, looked impressive in knocking out Enrique Garcia Mercado, 146¾, at 2:44 of the second session in a scheduled 10. Malcolm, who calls Hawaii his second hometown, is 87-21. Mercado, Mexico, fell to a reported 22-6.

Virgilio Openo, 121¼, displayed his power and scored a first-round knockout over Jose Martin Moreno, 119¾, in a scheduled 10. Openo is 20-1-3; Moreno reportedly 16-8-2.

Promoter: Gabriel Elorde Jr.'s Chariot Promotions
(12-13-90)

Joe Koizumi

IDAHO

BOISE—Western Idaho Fairgrounds—In what was billed as a local championship, **Darrel Hays**, Reno, Nevada, fought through the pain of a broken jaw to win a 12-round split decision over **Lorenzo Garcia**; junior lightweights.

Wallid Underwood, Seattle, kayoed Rene Garcia, Caldwell, at 2:40 of the seventh in a scheduled 12; junior welterweights.

Kenny Keene, the man whom the fans came to see, dispatched DeWitt Barksdale, Detroit, at 2:40 of the second round; cruiserweights. Keene, 3-0, has become the biggest draw on the Idaho scene.

Brandon Fleming, 160, Boise, scored three knockdowns against Everett Brunell, for a one-round TKO.

Veti Katoa, the underrated Salt Lake City heavyweight, stopped Craig Show, Boise, at 55 seconds of the opener.

Promoter: Mad Max
Attendance: 2,000 (estimated)
(11-7-90)

Ed Walsh

INDIANA

INDIANAPOLIS—The Sherwood Club—Local favorite **Craig Houk**, 148, Greensburg, 20-1, won a 10-round unanimous decision over **Vernon Garrett**, 142, Oklahoma City. Houk dropped Garrett in round seven. The scores: 98-91, 99-91, and 100-89.

In a gruelling match, Willie Jake, 178, Indianapolis, and Dino Stewart, 178, Muncie, fought to a majority draw over six rounds.

In another excellent contest, Bernard Price, 133, Muncie, 2-0, won a six-round unanimous nod over Michael Orr, 134, Indianapolis. Price showed a very good defense and countered well.

Rad Brewer, 260, Frankfort, won a four-round decision over veteran Frank Lux, 197, LeClaire, Iowa.

Kenny Kidd, 158, Jackson, Tennessee, and Buck Smith, 157, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, fought a four-round no decision bout.

Promoter: Fred Berns
Matchmaker: Pete Susens
Referees: George DeFabis, Gary Guiden
Judges: Mike Kelley, Charlie Tudor, Gary Merritt
Attendance: 350 (estimated)
(12-11-90)

Gary L. Merritt

MARYLAND

OWINGS MILLS—The scheduled co-feature between **Vincent Pettway** and dangerous sleeper **Stephan Johnson** was elevated to the main event when Julian Solis, who was scheduled to fight Calvin Grove, failed the state neurological exam. Solis has also failed the California neurological test.

Pettway, 147¼, Baltimore, and Johnson, 147¼, Brooklyn, New York, fought a tense, skillful boxing match for five rounds, with little to choose between them. But in the sixth, Johnson went to work, making it look almost easy. Johnson maneuvered Pettway, whose notorious chin has a way of letting him down at the most inopportune times, against the ropes. Johnson then let loose a withering barrage. Unable to escape, Pettway tried to bob and weave. But a series of big rights clanged off his head until he collapsed to the canvas, just as referee Milton Greene was moving to stop it. Pettway desperately struggled up, then protested plaintively when he realized that Greene had stopped it at the 2:14 mark.

The new co-feature 10 saw the upteenth return of popular Eddie Van Kirk, 147½, Baltimore, against useful Mike English, 147½, Columbia, South Carolina. The herky-jerky trialhorse tried to skip and slide, throw his opponent off track, and shut down his game. But against the rugged, no-frills Van Kirk, those tactics only prolonged the beating. Realizing he couldn't hide, English tried to turn it into a mauler in the fifth. But Van Kirk clobbered him on the inside, finally dropping him with a left hook to the body to close the seventh. English still wasn't right coming out for the eighth, and Van Kirk went right after him. A crackling left hook dropped him, with Frank Kelly stopping it over a mild protest when English arose at the 34-second mark.

Touted Kenny Whack, 155, Palmer Park, won a six-round unanimous decision over Terrell Harris, 155, Pittsburgh. Referee: Terry Moore.

Les Johnson, 154, Potomac, stopped an absolutely pathetic Lynn Robertson, 158, Yorktown, Virginia, in the second round. Referee: Larry Barrett.

"Pony Matador," 144¾, a former Ugandan amateur star residing in Richmond, Virginia, looked good dishing out a four-round unanimous beating to tiring Glenn Randolph, 143, Monrovia. Referee: Kelly.

Promoters: Frank Gelb, Stuart Satosky (Baltimore Professional Bouts)
Matchmakers: Johnny Bos, J. Russell Peltz
TV: USA Network
Judges: Ray Klingmeyer, Karl Milligan
Attendance: 1,700, (estimated)
(11-13-90)

J.R. Jowett

ROCKVILLE—Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza—After a bout between Louis Curtis and Mike Phelps fell out because the commission wouldn't sanction a 15-round distance, the modest main event was a fine local pairing, **Phil Gilberti** vs. **Jerry "Jock" Rash** over 10 rounds for the vacant state cruiserweight title. The erratic Gilberti, 195, Rockville, had been ignominiously stopped by Rash, 193, Elkton, in a previous meeting, but claims to be on the road to realization of his potential. In a brief, explosive encounter, Gilberti regrouped from an ambitious opening charge by Rash to push him off and nail him with a double right. The dazed Rash stumbled into the ropes, where another right dropped him onto the bottom strand. After a count, the game Rash was quickly staggered again, with referee Ray Klingmeyer halting it at 2:13 of the first.

Making promising career strides under new manager Tony Pulaski and trainer Emile Griffith, popular Eddie Van Kirk, 148, Baltimore, had his hands full gaining a unanimous decision over oldtimer Kato Wilson, 146, Bronx, in a rousing eight. The slugging Van Kirk came out confidently, and was dishing it out when he left himself open for a surprise left hook counter that dumped him in the first. Battling back into command, Van Kirk repaid the knockdown in the fourth, with almost the same punch. But the suicidally game Wilson, despite a ferocious pounding, survived to end up taking Van Kirk all the way in a gruelling bout. Karl Milligan and Ray Klingmeyer scored 78-72, while Frank Kelly had it 78-73, but it wasn't as easy as the scores indicated. Referee: Milton Greene.

Touted Jason Waller, 179, Stafford, Virginia, continues to show improvement, as he scored a blistering demolition of rugged John Garwood, 174½, Elkton, at 2:17 of the first, scheduled six. Returning after a long layoff, Garwood was nearly lifted off his feet by a savage right uppercut, with referee Larry Barrett catching him and holding him up as he stopped the bout.

Promising Juan Negron, 135, East Orange, New Jersey, was impressive in stopping dangerous Cesar Castro, 136, Brooklyn, at 42 seconds of the fourth, scheduled six. Still a little short of polish, the lanky Negron more than offset this with power and ripping combinations. Castro was floored in the first, ground down, and dropped again in the fourth. Referee: Frank Kelly.

Hammered in the first, gritty Kelvin Daly, 137, Hyattsville, wore out Tony Pressley, 135, Washington, D.C., in bristling action until Milligan stopped it, with Pressley getting worked over the ropes at 47 seconds of the third, scheduled for six.

Promoter: L.K.B. Productions
Matchmaker: Don Elbaum
Attendance: 275
Timekeeper: Andre Davis
Announcer: Tommy Curtis
(12-11-90)

J.R. Jowett

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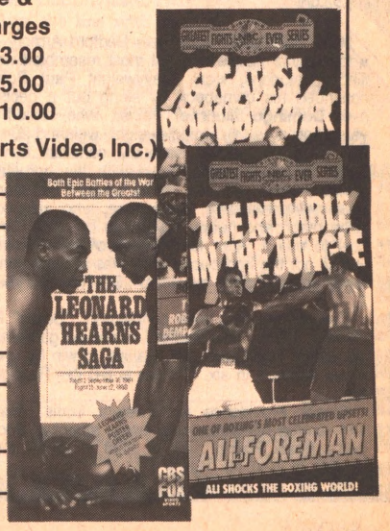

MASSACHUSETTS

BOSTON—Steve Collins tuned up for his next middleweight title shot by winning a one-sided 10-round decision over **Eddie Hall** at Boston Garden.

This Thanksgiving weekend card was designed to showcase Collins, and two other local heroes, Robbie Sims and John Rafuse. All three won lopsided decisions. In fact, the trio of designated victims didn't win a single round on *The Ring's* scorecards. For Collins and Rafuse, however, the easy wins renewed doubts of their punching power, while Sims' inability to corral his slippery foe did little to convince fans he's ready for top competition again.

Expected to try to outbrawl Collins, Hall, 162, Uniontown, Pennsylvania, instead chose to lay back and counter. This made for a deadly boring early sequence, as Collins, 162, Brockton via Dublin, pecked away carefully. Gradually, Collins began throwing multiple-punch flurries. After the fifth round, Collins' manager, Pat Petronelli, urged him to throw the right cross more. This proved to be a useful tool, and Collins peppered Hall, 20-7 (14), with his darting volleys.

Referee Dick Flaherty saw it 99-92, while Vincent Lee, 99-93, and Don O'Neill, 99-91, concurred.

Collins, 18-1 (7), reportedly can look ahead to an early spring date with Chris Eubank for the WBO title. "The Eubank thing was probably a distraction tonight," Collins admitted afterward. "I had to remember I was fighting Eddie Hall tonight."

Sims, 32-8-2 (21), met veteran Ralph Moncrief, 24-13 (14), who had every intention of going the distance no matter what, and little inclination to trade bombs. Sims, 160, Brockton, began catching Moncrief, 159, Cleveland, with a left hook in the second, and it would be his best weapon thereafter. As the fight wore on, Sims tried to brawl more, but Moncrief kept slip-slidin' away. By the eighth round, Moncrief couldn't outrun Sims, and covered up while the local southpaw dug away inside. Moncrief was cut over the left eye at the end, but still standing.

"I'm disappointed. I was a little rusty. But this should've been over early," Sims said.

Scores: Referee Flaherty, 99-92, Lee, 99-91, and O'Neill, 97-93.

Rafuse drew the opponent with the best chin in tall Toronto southpaw Ned Simmons. Rafuse, 139, Malden, 21-12 (7), hit Simmons, 138, 19-13 (8), with everything, but there was no apparent effect. Simmons never really utilized his reach advantage to hold Rafuse off, and although he boxed well enough to earn a couple of even rounds, he never put enough offense together to actually win a frame outright. Referee Gerry Leone and O'Neill called it 99-91, while Lee saw it 100-91.

Most of the excitement came during the preliminaries. Mike Cappiello, 131, West Bridgewater, ended his scheduled six-rounder with Adam Avilez, 126, Springfield, at 2:00 of round two with a crunchig body attack. Cappiello is 15-1 (7); Avilez 7-6.

There was not much defense on display in the four-rounder between Mike Bonislawski, 160, Somerville, and Frank Ambrose, 159, Salem, but since all the blood in the match belonged to Ambrose, Bonislawski got the decision.

In a four-round matchup, Willie Rosario, 158, Brockton, 1-0, dispatched Frank Risco, 160, Bridgeport, 0-1, in 92 seconds.

Promoter: Goodwin A.C. (Al Valenti)
Attendance: 3,250
Physician: Dr. Jorge Tello
(11-24-90)

NEW BEDFORD—The New Bedford Armory—In a four-round main event that most resembled wrestling mastodons, local heavyweight **Paul Poirier** continued his comeback by eking out a decision over **Domingo Munroe**. Poirier, who retired 13 years ago as a 26-0 middleweight, weighed 204 for this bout. He should seriously consider training down to cruiserweight. Even with his hometown crowd cheering him on, Poirier couldn't get started against Munroe, 218, Providence, who enjoyed a large reach and height advantage but didn't know how to use it. After four frames of jab-and-clinch, Poirier got the nod because he was at least consistently active. Poirier moved to 28-0 (13); Munroe 0-2.

Two six-rounders were co-featured. "Sucra" Ray Oliviera, 137½, New Bedford, outboxed game slugger Jaime Rodriguez, 137, Salem, to win by unanimous decision in six. Oliviera is 6-0 (3); Rodriguez 6-9.

Classy Providence welterweight Louis Veador, 141, ended his six-rounder early, stopping Bridgeport's Frank Harris, 146, at 2:28 of round three. Veador is 12-0 (4); Harris 6-7.

The most impressive punch on the card was thrown by Joey Negron, 134, Worcester, 4-0 (3), when his solar plexus shot caved in Bridgeport southpaw Angel Vargas, 129, 52 seconds into their four-rounder.

Brockton's Willie Rosario, 156, won his second pro fight with a narrow decision when he outworked debuting Calvin Jones, 150, Somerville, over four dreadful stanzas.

A crude but entertaining heavyweight brawl saw Boston's Sean Jones, 198, outbattle Bridgeport's Marvin Tillman, 186, to take a unanimous decision after four bloody rounds. Jones is 3-4; Tillman 0-2.

A lively and competitive four-rounder saw debuting Rocky Gonzalez, 135, New Bedford, decision Bridgeport's Angel Correro, 135.

The night's first bout saw New Bedford's Kevin De Voll,, 139, go to 2-0 with a four-round decision over Carlos "Loverboy" Marrera, 140, Bridgeport.

Promoter: Big O Promotions (Eric Orman)
Matchmaker: Paul Morrisette
Referees: Nick Previti, Jordan "Tinker" Picot
Judges: Don O'Neill, Bill Connelly
Timekeeper: Lee Meador
Physician: Dr. Jorge Tello
Attendance: 187
(12-14-90)

Jay N. Miller

MICHIGAN

AUBURN HILLS—The Palace—**Ismael Negron**, 14-7-1, Newark, New Jersey, wore down NABF middleweight champion **Fabian Williams**, 12-2-1, but came away with a lackluster 12-round draw. Referee: Marv McDonald.

In an interesting co-main, Kronk's Oba Carr, 14-0, beat Lansing's Larry Benson, 21-17, who took everything Carr could dish out in dropping a unanimous eight-round decision.

The undercard saw seven-footer Marcellus Brown, 12-3, Grand Rapids, slam dunk Highland Park's Kermit Fitzpatrick at 2:50 of the fourth stanza. As Fitzpatrick wobbled to his feet, referee Bob Fisher wisely stopped the bout when he saw Fitzpatrick's inability to regain his senses.

Kronk welterweight Roderick Moore, 5-0, won a hard-hitting six-round majority decision over a game Lee Carmello Huertas, 3-4.

Promoter: Ringside Productions
Matchmaker: Tom Vacca
Television: Pass Cable
(11-27-90)

CANTON—Aundrey Nelson, Canton, 22-1 (16), decisioned Oklahoma City's **Tony Harrison**, 24-4 (18), in a 12-round light heavyweight bout that featured little skill.

Harry Funmaker, 251, Wisconsin, 251, 4-8, was stopped by Detroit's Derrick Banks, 2-1, at 1:58 of the third.

Mike Johnson, 142, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 23-2, scored a 10-round unanimous nod over Anthony Bryant, 145, 15-17-1.

Sixteen-year-old Richard Adams, 120, Illinois, 8-0, TKO'd David Long, 122, Wisconsin, at 2:28 of the second round. Referee: Tom Paruszkiewicz.

Promoter: Cobra Productions
(12-6-90)

DEARBORN—Hyatt Regency—In a middleweight bout scheduled for 10 rounds, Ann Arbor's **James Toney**, 25-0-1, stopped South American champion **Carlos Silva**, 16-5, in the sixth.

Streaking prospect Oba Carr, 16-0, stopped Waldemir Franco in the fourth; junior welterweights.

Junior middleweight Ron Morgan, 8-0, a protege of Gerry Cooney, tonight's guest ring announcer, knocked out Kevin Hicks, 5-6-1, in the second.

James Hogues' pro debut was spoiled via kayo by Detroit lightweight Steve Thomas, 4-0, in the second round.

Lanky Todd Riggs, 7-0-2, stopped John Perrault, 2-6, in the second stanza; welterweights.

Another Kronk lightweight battler, Jason Crutchfield, 3-0, stopped James Harris, 0-2.

Detroit's Percell Davis, 271, took an eight-round unanimous decision over England's David Pearce, 17-4-1. Davis is 14-9.

Promoters: Jackie Kallan, Ringside Productions
(12-10-90)

Thomas F. Paruszkiewicz

MINNESOTA

MINNEAPOLIS—Target Center—The first WBF title bout in history was staged here and produced a minor upset as two old cruiserweights well past their primes clashed. **Rickey Parkey**, Morristown, Tennessee, scored a sixth-round stoppage over slight favorite **Young Joe Louis**, Chicago. These two engaged in a pretty fair slugfest, much to the delight the crowd. It looked as though Parkey would put him away in the third heat, as he blasted Louis with a series of punches that prompted referee Leroy Benson to give Louis two standing eight-counts.

Louis came back in the fourth, however, scoring with several good punches of his own. A left hook to the body staggered Parkey and possibly fractured a couple of his ribs. In the sixth, Parkey, 22-8 (16), let fly with a big overhand right that nailed Louis flush on the side of the jaw, and Young Joe fell face-first on to the lower strand of the ropes. Louis managed to regain his upright posture but was on very rubbery legs, and Benson called a halt at 1:40 of the sixth. Louis, who had become somewhat of a favorite here, slipped to 32-10-1 (19).

The semifinal, which had created some local interest, did not turn out to be the battle which was hoped for. Undefeated heavyweight John "Hog" Sargent, Naytahwaush, 9-0 (6), won an eight-round split decision over state rival James Lee Smith, Minneapolis, 7-1 (5).

Junior welterweight Richie Albrecht, Anoka, 11-0 (6), scored a unanimous six-round decision over Gerald "Weasel" Shelton, Minneapolis, 5-18-1 (1).

Cortez Box, Minneapolis, 4-0 (3), struggled to gain a four-round split verdict over game Damion Sutton, Cloquet, 0-3; junior welterweights.

Minneapolis middleweight Thomas Jones, 3-0 (3), had easy pickings as he stopped John McIntosh, Milwaukee, 0-2, at 1:38 of the first round.

Promoter: Chuck Daszkiewicz
Matchmaker: Joe Daszkiewicz
Attendance: 3,000 (estimated)
(12-7-90)

Notes: Longtime commissioner Dave Bloomberg of St. Paul passed away November 2 at age 70 after a long illness.

George D. Blair

NEW JERSEY

ATLANTIC CITY—Harrah's Marina—**Tony Thornton**, 164, Glassboro, charged out for the scheduled 10 with obvious bad intent. **Carl Sullivan**, 162¼, Pittsburgh, attempted to meet him in the trenches, but found himself quickly getting clobbered. After a round or two of this, Sullivan's changed his tactics. He resorted to backtracking and nifty jabbing. Thornton's response was to dig shots to the body and below, as the bout settled into an entertaining mix of styles. The crafty Sullivan put up a fine effort, but the doubly experienced Thornton was better. Cutting off the ring and landing the harder punches, Thornton finally broke through with a left hook to the body and a right to the head that dazed Sullivan in the fifth. The hard-pressed Sullivan fought back well to get out of the round, but was bleeding from the nose and hurt again in the seventh.

Trailing on all cards, the game Sullivan went all out in the ninth. Turning aggressor, he drove Thornton to the ropes. But the change of direction was just what Thornton needed to get finishing power into his punches. Coming over the top with a right, he sent Sullivan on an overdue trip to the canvas. Sullivan arose and again fought back gamely, until blasted by a left hook that caused him to turn away. Steve Smoger stopped the fight at 1:17. Sullivan is 11-3 (7); Thornton 26-4-1 (21).

The co-feature 10 was a tremendous fight. Vinny Burgese, 141, Philadelphia, nearly swept the early rounds, then held his own against a late surge from tough Chuck Sturm, 139½, Baltimore, to gain a thoroughly deserved, but not entirely accepted, unanimous decision. Frank Cairo drew the crowd's ire with a 98-92 score, while Joe Pasquale and Tom Kaczmarek both had 96-94. Burgese is 21-2-1 (12); Sturm 22-3-1 (8). Referee: Tony Perez.

Fernando Rodriguez, 124½, Lancaster, struggled to a six-round majority draw with classy Bennie Amparo, 124½, Philadelphia. Amparo outboxed Rodriguez and mangled his left eye until Rodriguez dug in his heels in the second half. Referee: Perez.

Sean Hart, 177, Hellertown, Pennsylvania, dropped tiring oldie Edwin Newby, 172, Pleasantville, in the fifth and gained a unanimous six-round win. Referee: Smoger.

Touted Jimmy DeOria, 134½, Phoenixville, Pennsylvania, started well against Aaron Evans, 135½, Washington, D.C., but had to hang on after both eyes were cut in the third. He gained a unanimous four-round verdict. Referee: Perez.

Garfield McKenzie, 149, Philadelphia, similarly unraveled in holding onto a majority win over Drew Hayes, 150, Pleasantville, in a ragged four. Referee: Smoger.

Promoter: Peltz Boxing Promotions
Matchmaker: J. Russell Peltz
Attendance: 1,200 (estimated)
TV: SportsChannel America
(11-5-90)

J.R. Jowett

ATLANTIC CITY—Resorts International—Unheralded **Tony Martin** continued to shock favored opposition. This time, Martin, 141½, Philadelphia, scored a stunning unanimous decision over **Ras-I (Livingstone) Bramble**, 141, Passaic, over 10 rounds, but not without some help from fate. Martin's recent surge appeared headed for a sharp downturn when Bramble started very strong, stepped inside smartly with short combinations, and had him hurt in the second. But the determined underdog turned up the heat, then caught a break following a late rally by Bramble in the fifth. It was the favorite's last hurrah, as he was forced to alter his style to a largely southpaw stance in the second half. A separated left shoulder was visible, with Bramble later reporting its occurrence in the fifth.

Martin penetrated Bramble's lefty defense with straight rights in a big sixth that set the tone for the rest of the fight. Bramble fought gamely in frenzied action and kept the bout much closer than the scores would later indicate. But the confident and psyched-up Martin owned the exchanges, and his overall command couldn't be denied. Rich Strange scored 97-93, while both Eva Shain and Thomas Kaczmarek had 98-92. Bramble fell to 30-5-2 (10), and Martin went to 21-3 (6). Ted Pick refereed.

Observed the jubilant winner, "I was in this same position about three years ago. I knocked on the door of the top 10, and they wouldn't let me in. Now I'm going to kick the door down."

Upsets were in vogue, but the fashion varied, as Martin's highflying effort was balanced by an understated win in the companion 10. Sleeper Leon Taylor, 188, Brooklyn, a recent returnee after four years of inactivity, pinned the first defeat on the gilt-edged Triple Threat Team, as represented by Alfred Cole, 187, Spring Valley, New York, via Essex County. Whereas Martin went right at Bramble and outfought him, the slippery Taylor made Cole his own worst enemy by luring him into off-balance misses, sliding away, then countering from angles. The rangy Cole was visibly frustrated when left leaning, as Taylor slid around his punches but still managed to keep the bout hairline close until the final two rounds. Action was hardly inspiring, but the tedious chess match was nonetheless riveting. Misses had Cole's arms dropping as Taylor closed with his best rounds, which should have removed all doubt. But Shain voted for Cole, 97-93. Fortunately, Strange and Kaczmarek both scored 96-94 for the deserving underdog. Taylor is 13-3 (6). Arthur Mercante refereed.

The sorry state of the once-proud tradition of championship boxing was in evidence on the undercard, where a one-time world title challenger was reduced to a traveling preliminary embarrassment. Brazilian Claudemir Dias, 117½, fighting out of Los Angeles, who was 13-0 when defeated by WBA flyweight titlist Hilario Zapata in 1986, was mopped up by touted "Poison" Junior Jones, 118, New York City, at 2:02 of the second, scheduled for six. Dias was pathetic, going down once in the first and three more times in the second, whether hit solidly or not. He fell to 19-4 (11). It was his third straight knockout loss. Referee: Pick.

Exciting Freddie Liberatore, 126, Bayside, New York, overwhelmed Danny Melendez, 125, Portland, Maine, blasting him to the canvas twice for a TKO at 2:22 of the first, scheduled for six. Referee: Mercante.

Gary Carriero, 155, Port Chester, New York, started well, then fizzled to a majority draw with Rodney Knox, 156, Atlantic City, in a poorly fought four. Referee: Pick.

Promoter: Bob Arum
Matchmaker: Ron Katz
Attendance: 800 (estimated)
TV: ESPN
(12-13-90)

NEVADA

LAS VEGAS—IBF bantamweight champion **Orlando Canizales**, 127, Laredo, Texas, will never be remembered for a memorable debut in the Valley of the Dollars, recording a lackluster 10-round non-title victory over **Francisco Ortiz**, 127, Harlingen, Texas.

Banner Promotions of Philadelphia came in with a seven-bout card to help the Sands Hotel-Casino dedicate its megamillion dollar Expo & Convention Center. However, with the main-eventers nine pounds over the bantamweight limit, the proper billing should have been "exhibition."

Maybe Canizales, 27-1-1 (22), just wanted to get in some rounds. His return title bout with England's Billy Hardy goes to purse bids in January.

Canizales and Ortiz touched gloves after every round, so it was clear there were no mean intentions. Ortiz dipped to 24-10-4 (11).

Luis Vasquez, 154, Culiacan, Mexico, and Tony Montgomery, 153, Woodland Hills, California, provided a different story, with the former winning a bruising but unanimous 10-round decision. Vasquez, 16-3 (12), doesn't have the power implied by his nickname "Tyson," but he employed a steady body attack to slowly wear down the counterpunching Montgomery. The transplanted Detroiter fell to 23-5 (14).

In another bantamweight tenner, Roberto Chavez, 118, Culiacan, Mexico, was surprised by Lee Cargle, 119, Los Angeles, before winning a split decision. The winner is the 19-year-old brother of WBC-IBF junior welterweight champion Julio Cesar Chavez, who was at ringside as a color commentator for Univision. While the younger Chavez improved to 22-1 (16), he also met with a rare trip to the canvas when Cargle caught him with a sweeping right-left to the jaw. Chavez was not hurt, but startled as he landed on the seat of his trunks. Rising on referee Toby Gibson's count of eight, Chavez engaged Cargle through a slugfest until the final bell. Cargle is 24-21-1 (14).

Donny Giron, 162, Denver, won on a fourth-round TKO when Ruben Villaman, 159, Phoenix, suffered a cut right eye and was not permitted to continue by Dr. Flip Homansky. Giron is 11-2-2 (9); Villaman 28-17-1 (24).

Sergio Vella, El Paso, Texas, is 6-1 (4) after scoring a second-round TKO when Juan Nunez, 143, El Paso, Texas, suffered a cut left eye. The latter fell to 8-5 (3).

Clark Earls, 140, Las Vegas, scored a unanimous six-round decision over Fernando Lugo, 143, Phoenix, and lifted to 6-0-1 (3).
(12-14-90)

LAS VEGAS—**Greg Haugen**, 137, former two-time IBF lightweight champion, turned in the sharpest performance since his dethronement 22 months ago, with a dominating 10-round decision over **Billy "The Kid" Young**, 136, at Bally's casino resort.

Haugen, who had been slowed earlier in the year by minor injuries and a virus, was never out of control against the taller Taylor, who owned a superior reach but couldn't outjab his foe. There were no knockdowns, but Young bled from the nose and mouth and was cut over the right eye in the seventh round. Haugen improved to 27-3-1 (13).

Young, 26, had his mouthpiece knocked out in the fourth and 10th rounds. He dipped to 27-5-1 (19). Young suffered a cut when the rivals bumped heads in the sixth round, but it was Haugen's unrelenting 3-1 advantage in punching ratio that did the big damage.

Kelcie Banks, 135, Las Vegas, consistently outpunched Ben Lopez, 134, Upland, California, but he had to settle for a unanimous 10-round decision. Banks moved to 16-1 (10); Lopez 16-9 (11).

Kennedy McKinney, 122, Las Vegas, did a workmanlike job in TKOing former contender Adrian Arreola, 122, Los Angeles at 1:34 of the fifth round in a scheduled eight. McKinney, 13-0-1 (8), dropped Arreola in the third round and then mixed head and body combinations to deck his man twice in the fifth before referee Toby Gibson stopped it. Arreola, with only one fight in three years, fell to 34-16 (17).

Former amateur stars Frank Pena and Skipper Kelp made their pro debuts in abbreviated four-round bouts. Pena, 128, Aurora, Colorado, TKO'd Sergio Medina, 128, Corona, California, at 1:28 of the fourth round. Medina fell to 4-4-1.

Kelp threw one booming left hook and TKO'd Miguel Lopez, 146, Los Angeles, at 30 seconds of the first round. Lopez is 2-2.
(12-20-90)

LAS VEGAS—Featherweight **Tracy Harris Patterson** and welterweight **Glenwood Brown** seemed to be in competition for brevity in their victories, as Madison Square Garden Boxing brought two bright talents to the Sands Hotel & Casino.

In a local association with Premier Promotions, the Garden's participation saw Patterson stop **Albert Rendon** at 2:29 of the third round, and Brown chill **Julian Benitez** with 1:47 gone in the fourth round. The co-main events, carried on the MSG network, were scheduled for 10 rounds.

Patterson, 25, New Paltz, New York, the adopted son of Floyd Patterson, impressively defended his world-class ranking. The NABF junior featherweight title held by Patterson was not at stake. He raised to 39-2 (28).

Patterson, 126, delivered a blistering offense which never let Rendon, 124½, San Antonio, Tex-

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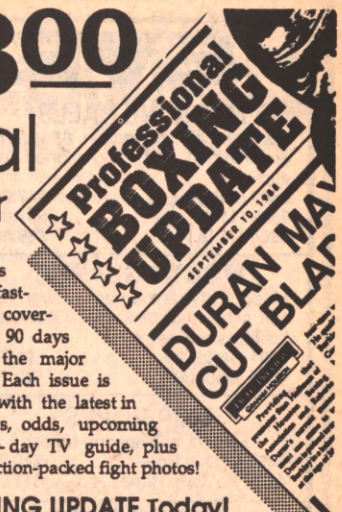

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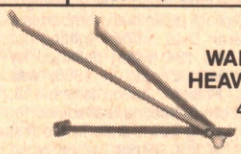

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as, get untracked. Patterson picked up the pace in the second round and made Rendon hold after two wicked left hooks. Just before the bell, Patterson dropped his rival with a long left jab. Opening the third round with a six-punch salvo, Patterson then moved Rendon across the ring with another unanswered series of 10 left-rights before Richard Steele stopped it with 31 seconds left in the round. Rendon fell to 12-7-1.

Brown, 149, was even more patient than Patterson as he dominated Benitez, 150, Ensenada, Mexico, with unerring combinations. Pressuring behind a mean jab, the 23-year-old Brown finally dropped Benitez flat on his back at midring with a vicious left hook. The gutty Mexican struggled to rise at eight, but when Steele saw him lurch into Brown's corner, it was ended. Brown is 33-1 (24); Benitez 30-6 (24).

Lamar "Kidfire" Parks, 165, Greenville, South Carolina, continued on a roll when he TKO'd Eric Cole, 167, Cincinnati, Ohio, at 1:25 of the second in a slated eight-rounder. Parks is 13-0 (12); Cole 7-8.

Desmond Finger, 191, Las Vegas, needed 2:50 of the fourth round to stop Terry Verner, 191, Fresno, California. Finger is 13-0 (12); Verner 6-11-2 (4).

Steve Barreras, 146, Albuquerque, New Mexico, moved to 8-2 (1) with a unanimous six-round decision over Joe Varela, Las Vegas, who fell to 6-4-4 (2).

Tim Puller, 224, Las Vegas, recovered from a first-round knockdown to register a unanimous four-round score over Steve Cortez, 265, Portland, Oregon. Puller is 2-0 (1).

Darren Zenner, 164, Las Vegas, made it 2-0 (1) when Albert Garcia, 160, Albuquerque, was cut under the left eye in the first round. Dr. Oral Campana ruled Garcia could not come out for second round. The latter is 5-7 (4).
(12-21-90)

LAS VEGAS—Roger Mayweather, serving notice he wants a national TV bout early in 1991, rang out the old year with an impressive third-round TKO over Mexico's **Santos Moreno** as AF Promotions presented its second card at the Hacienda hotel-casino.

Mayweather, 141, Las Vegas, 39-6 (25), was a study in punishing accuracy. He overwhelmed the outgunned Moreno, 141, Juarez, at 1:47 of the third in a scheduled 10-rounder. He didn't need much more than a steady mixture of jabs and hooks against Moreno, who fell to 55-18-2 (31). The former world champion was in command from the opening bell, but he really rolled out the heavy artillery in the second round. Moreno, 30, tried to pick up the pace with lunging jabs, but Mayweather started doubling up with hooks to the head and body.

Opening the third with three straight hooks to the body, Mayweather added another unanswered barrage to drop Moreno the first time. The Juarez visitor insisted to referee Carlos Padila he was okay, but immediately ran into a flurry of 10 hooks to the body. Mayweather poured it on, even throwing a rare right. Bleeding from the nose and mouth, Moreno finally crumpled from a hook to the body. Padilla wisely stopped it after Moreno wobbled to his feet at six.

Manager Billy Baxter is still concerned that a bad bruise is impairing Mayweather's right hand.

"It's clear to everybody that a hand is a problem," he said. "I'm not going to let him fight again until we get some kind of therapy. Roger can beat a lot of guys with one hand, but when you're in with the champions and top people, you must have both hands."

Jerome Coffee, 124½, Las Vegas, rebounded from a fourth-round knockdown to blast out Mario Lozano, 122, El Paso, Texas, at 1:47 of the seventh round in a scheduled eight-rounder. Coffee, 36-5-1 (16), was in control with his jab when Lozano caught him off-balance with a left-right to score a knockdown. Coffee settled the issue in the seventh, when he rocked Lozano with a six-punch volley capped by three lefts to the stomach and a right to the jaw. Lozano was on his hands and knees when referee Toby Gibson stopped it at the count of six.

Israel Cole, Las Vegas, had a brief night when he kayoed Liciate Labulo, 171, Tonga, at 23 seconds of the first round with the first punch he threw, a right to the nose. Cole is 12-6-4; Labulo 9-2.

Jeff Mayweather, 137, Las Vegas, scored a unanimous eight-round decision over Lorenzo Garcia, 135, Mexicali, Mexico. Mayweather ups to 13-0-1 (3); Garcia 12-11-2.

Arthur Williams, 193, Las Vegas, posted a TKO over Armando Hurtado, 184, Phoenix, at 50 seconds of the first round in a slated eight-rounder. Williams is 7-0-1 (6); Hurtado 5-5.

C.J. Canales, 130, Las Vegas, registered a TKO over Alfredo Torres, 131, El Paso, Texas, at 2:40 of the first round.
(12-27-90)

Jack Welsh

OHIO

CLEVELAND—Slovenian National Home—Prospect **Carl Griffith**, 140, Lorain, 15-1-1 (6), scored a fifth-round stoppage over **Henry Mobley**, 144, Chicago, in the scheduled 10-round main event. An overhand right dropped Mobley, 15-22-2 (2), early in the fifth round, and the fight was stopped at the 55-second mark.

In the card's best action, Tony Rodriguez, 149, Cleveland, went toe to toe and outbrawled Lee Smith, 150, Findlay, winning an eight-round unanimous decision. Rodriguez is 8-1 (4); Smith 3-2-1 (1).

In another action-packed battle, Sam DeLeon, 150, Cleveland, outfought Robert Briggs, 154, Youngstown, for a six-round majority verdict.

Leonard Church, 136, Lorain, was declared the winner when Pete Calvillo, 132, Cleveland, was disqualified in the third round for repeated low blows. Calvillo was dominating, but lost his composure.

Promoter: Rivera-Kelly Productions
Matchmaker: Mark Rivera
Attendance: 400 (estimated)
(11-9-90)

Erich Gliebe

PENNSYLVANIA

ERIE—Mercyhurst Campus Center—The card was billed as The Sixth Annual Erie Boxing Classic, which highlights local boxers. As promoter Mike Acri put it, "The fans saw good boxing. No matter who the names were, they saw good fights."

The card was overseen by newly appointed Western Pennsylvania Commissioner Andy "Kid" DePaul, a middleweight contender from the 1950s. One of his first enactments was to suspend the license of welterweight Mike Warren, Pittsburgh, who failed to make weight, thereby nullifying the feature event with local favorite John Bizzarro, 9-1-1.

Eric Podolak, 140, Pittsburgh, 12-2, won an eight-round unanimous decision over **Ozzie O'Neal**, 140, Youngstown, Ohio, 15-8. Podolak came from behind when his left hand, which landed all evening, started to have some effect on the charging O'Neal. In round four, he buckled O'Neal's legs, and in the eighth, a standing eight was administered by referee Paddy Grimes. O'Neal was successful in closing Podolak's left eye.

After losing the first three rounds, light heavyweight Bert Gravley, 188, Beckly, West Virginia, 19-8, rallied to stop Tim Taylor, 182, Uniontown, 10-4-2, at 1:13 of the seventh round; scheduled for eight. Gravley adjusted to Taylor's crouching style, knocking him down twice in the sixth with the right uppercut and again in the seventh, when referee Biff Baer stopped it.

Fast hands and quick combinations were enough to keep Lamar Williams, 137¼, Erie, unbeaten at 4-0-1. He won a six-round unanimous decision over Jeff Graffius, 138, Pittsburgh, 2-2. Former world champion Emile Griffith worked the corner of Williams. Referee: Paddy Grimes.

Cornelius McClellan, 176, Erie, 3-1, landed his right at will en route to a second-round TKO over overmatched Jim Corbin, 174¾, Philipa, West Virginia, 2-2; scheduled for four. The end came at 1:56 of the round, when Corbin, already down twice in the round, couldn't continue. Referee: Baer.

Wilberto Lattore, 117, Erie, made his debut a successful one by making short work of David Jones, 118, 2-5, Buffalo, at 1:16 of the first round in a scheduled four. The fight was exciting while it lasted, with the combatants exchanging and the crowd on its feet and screaming wildly. Referee: Grimes.

Promoter: Mike Acri
Matchmaker: Mike Acri
Judges: Herb Scott, Bernie Harkins, Paddy Grimes, Richard Baer
Attendance: 831
(11-10-90)

Fred Blumstein

TENNESSEE

MEMPHIS—Omni New Daisy Theatre—**Dan Ward**, 191, West Memphis, Arkansas, paired with **Kevin Poindexter**, 192, Nashville, in a scheduled 10-round cruiserweight contest. After dominating the first round, Ward came out in round two and dropped Poindexter for the count with a big right at the 1:23 mark.

What started out to be the best fight of the night ended up to be a corner- clearing free-for-all. Scotty "The Body" Smith, 162, Little Rock, Arkansas, met Johnny "The Hitman" Alford, 156, McCroy, Arkansas, in a scheduled six-rounder. After three rounds

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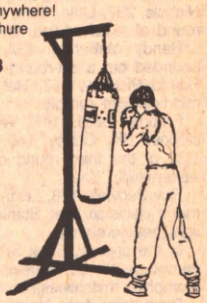

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of non-stop action, round four started out the same when referee Sam Garland called for a break and Alford didn't appreciate it and shoved Garland out of the way. Garland didn't like being shoved and grabbed the fighter. Alford's corner then decided to take action and jump the referee. When the smoke cleared, Smith was declared the winner by disqualification.

Michael Faulkner, 264, Memphis, stopped Tony Nichols, 237, Little Rock, at 45 seconds of the third round of a scheduled six-round heavyweight bout.

Randy Williams, 157, Greenville, Mississippi, pounded out a six-round unanimous decision over Harold Pickney, 157, Hot Springs, Arkansas, in a middleweight rumble.

Freddie Ladd, 147, West Memphis, Arkansas, stopped Billy Outley, 140, Nashville, Tennessee, at 1:32 of the third round of a scheduled six-round welterweight bout.

Roy Bedwell, 178, Lexington, pounded out a four-round decision over Stanley White, 177, Memphis; light heavyweights.

In the opener, Buck Smith, 160, Oklahoma City, earned a six-round decision over Tommy Jeans, Memphis; middleweights.

Promoters: Tom Harmon, Mid South Boxing
Matchmaker: Red Fortner
Judges: Ken Roach, Jim Denney, Tim Dwyer, Alex McCollum, Jim Harbor
Referee: Sam Garland
Ringside Physician: Dr. Susan Lindsey
Attendance: 600 (estimated)
(11-6-90)

Michael Glenn

SMYRNA—Smyrna Middle School—A slimed down **Ken "Bull" Atkin**, 7-3, rewarded a home-town packed house by convincingly outpointing Evansville, Indiana, trialhorse **Gary Thomas**, 19-8, over 10 tough rounds. Atkin, 173, used frequent jabs and strategically thrown hooks, held on to weather the early storm.

Thomas shocked the onrushing Atkin with a left hook midway through the second, which turned the momentum and propelled Thomas' action-packed attack until the sixth round, when he became arm weary and tried to coast. Atkin carried the next three rounds with relentless body work and dropped Thomas in the eighth.

In the ninth, Thomas caught Akin with a one-two, which had the localite holding on at the bell. Atkin recovered to win the 10th—and the decision. The scores: 97-93, 98-93, and 97-94.

Former Olympian Romallis Ellis, 147, Atlanta, 14-0 (12), disposed of Lexington's Jackie Bedwell, 147, at 1:50 of the first round. Bedwill is 7-6.

Homer Givens, 138, Atlanta, 2-1, softened Greg McCormick, 132½, Chattanooga, with body shots and stopped him at 2:07 of the first.

In his eagerly awaited pro debut, localite Tim Johnson, 174, outpointed his amateur nemesis, Exxon Williams, 174, Decatur, Georgia, over four rounds.

Dan Allen, 195, Lebanon, 5-0 (4), outpointed Kenneth Bentley, 195, over four rounds. Bently slipped to 38-20-1.

Don Wilford, 154, Smyrna, 2-0, dismantled Tim Brown, 163, Bowling Green, Kentucky, just 1:40 into the fight.

J.R. Spears, 224, Smyrna, 7-5-1, was never in danger while outpointing the outweighed and outgunned Roy Bedwell, 172, Lexington, 23-8 (10), over four rounds.

Steve Cross, 236, Nashville, 1-0, stopped Ken Burch, 230, Rome, Georgia, 1-2, at 2:50 of the first round.

Promoter: Kerry Pharr
Referees: Jeff Chase, Anthony Bryant
Judges: John Tomerlain, Danny Jones, Jeff Thomas
Physicians: Dr. Gary Swartz, Dr. John Burns
Attendance: 800 (estimated)
(11-10-90)

Jeff Pennig

MEMPHIS—Omni New Daisy Theatre—**Freddie Ladd**, 153, West Memphis, Arkansas, paired with **Kevin Johnson**, 160, Oklahoma City, in a scheduled 10-round junior middleweight contest. Johnson traded with Ladd throughout. But the bout had to be stopped at 2:09 of the ninth round because of a cut over the left eye of Johnson. Ladd was declared the winner.

At middleweight, Scotty Smith, 162, Little Rock, Arkansas, squared off with Johnny Alford, 153, McCroy, Arkansas. Last month's bout ended in a corner- clearing brawl, but this proved to be a little different. The fighters traded for the first five rounds. But in round six, Smith overpowered Alford with combinations and referee Sam Garland stopped the bout at the 1:20 mark.

Dan Ward, 192, West Memphis, Arkansas, stopped Harold Randolph, 224, Little Rock, at 1:07 of the third round.

In a scheduled six-round middleweight bout, Harold Pickney, 161, Hot Springs, Arkansas, was declared a TKO winner over Anthony Campbell, 164, Little Rock, when Campbell failed to answer the bell for round three.

Simmie Black, 134, Memphis, won a four-round unanimous decision over Ali Smith, 125, Little Rock; lightweights.

Promoters: Tom Harmon, Mid South Boxing
Matchmaker: Red Fortner
Judges: Ken Roach, Jim Denny, Tim Dwyer, Alex McCollum, Jim Harbor
Referees: Sam Garland, Sonny Bauman
Physician: Dr. Susan Lindsey
Attendance: 600 (estimated)
(12-4-90)

MEMPHIS—Omni New Daisey Theatre—**Michael Greer**, 200, Memphis, was paired with **Frankie Swindell**, 200, Nashville, Tennessee, in a scheduled 10-round cruiserweight contest. It was a crossroads fight for Greer, and it didn't take long for him to take control. From round one, Greer scored with combinations that kept Swindell off-balance. Swindell did come to fight, but he hung in until the end. The judges scored 100-91, 100-92, and 99-91, all for Greer.

Freddie Ladd, 148, West Memphis, Arkansas, improved to 9-0 (8) as he stopped Tommy Jeans, 156, Memphis, with 51 seconds left in the fifth round of a scheduled six-rounder.

In what was the most entertaining fight of the night, Tim Dendy, 164, Jackson, Tennessee, pounded out a six-round unanimous decision over Harold Pickney, 160, Hot Springs, Arkansas; middleweights.

At heavyweight, Michael Faulkner, 262, Memphis, scored a first-round kayo over Harold Randolph, 212, Little Rock, 49 seconds into the fight.

At light heavyweight, Eric French, 176, Memphis, scored a second-round TKO over Jessie Wade, 176, Nashville, at the 2:10 mark.

Dan Allen, 189, Nashville, earned a four-round

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unanimous decision over Roy Bedwell, 174, Jackson, in a light heavyweight rumble.
Promoters: Tom Harmon, Mid South Boxing
Matchmaker: Red Fortner
Referees: Sam Garland, Sonny Bauman
Judges: Ken Roach, Jim Denny, Tim Dwyer, Alex McCollum, Jim Harbor
Attendance: 600 (estimated)
(1-8-91)

Michael Glenn

VIRGINIA

VIRGINIA BEACH—The Dome—In a fight for the state heavyweight championship, **Everett "The Tornado" Mayo**, 214, Richmond, roared from behind to stop **Darren Hayden**, 228, Virginia Beach, at the end of the seventh round. Mayo, 6-1, blew the first four rounds, letting Hayden pepper him with jabs and straight rights. At the end of the fourth, referee Al Rothenberg leaned towards Mayo's corner and gave him some sound advice.

"I told him to start throwing punches back or I was going to stop the fight," Rothenberg said.

Mayo did just that, going toe to toe in the fifth and sixth rounds and bringing the crowd to its feet. In the seventh, Mayo hurt Hayden with a series of shots and didn't let up until Rothenberg pulled him off near the end of the round. Hayden, who beat Mayo in his pro debut in November 1989, fell to 5-1.

Mark "Buck" Buchanan, 153, Norfolk, 10-1, continued his streak of wins over bums by stopping Calvin Moody, 149, Portsmouth, in the second. Moody was down once. Moody, whose record is not known, fights occasionally under the alias Moot Luv. In the six fights this reporter has seen Moody in, he's lost each time. Referee: John Witt.

Carlton West, 205, Portsmouth, won a unanimous decision (scores 58-55 twice, and 57-56) over Ric Lainhart, 203, Virginia Beach. Neither has ability, but both gave it their all in a decent bout. West is 4-3; Lainhart's record is unknown, although guesstimates put him with about 15 wins in 30 fights. Referee: Rothenberg.

Promoter: Donnie Pully
Judges: Jim Traylor, Bebee Exton, Oscar Bryan
Physician: Dr. Maria Pla
Attendance: 725
(11-10-90)

PORTSMOUTH—David's Nightclub—In a bout billed for something called the South Atlantic heavyweight championship, **Mike "Powerhouse" Rouse**, 244, Portsmouth, stopped **Mike White**, 198, Kingston, North Carolina, in the second round after flooring White with a right-left combo. White offered little resistance up to the point of being kayoed, so it's hard to give much credit to Rouse, 13-5. Referee: Al Rothenberg.

In an action-packed six-rounder, Tim Knight, 151, Norfolk, won a unanimous decision over Mark "Buck" Buchanan, 153, Norfolk. Scores were 60-54, 59-55, and 58-56. Knight moves to 4-1; Buchanan 10-2. Tom Gillikin refereed.

Stacey "Panama" Burrus, 149, Norfolk, was robbed of a sure win when Darnell Richardson, 144, Portsmouth, suffered a cut over his right eye in the third round of a scheduled six. The doctor stopped the fight, and referee Rothenberg ruled that the cut came from an accidental head butt. Because the bout had not reached the halfway point, it was ruled a technical draw. Up to the time of the stoppage, the smooth-boxing Burrus had his way with Richardson, who tried unsuccessfully to hit and run. Burrus is 11-3; Richardson a reported 12-11.

Nathaniel Fitch, 221, Ft. Bragg, North Carolina, won via second-round disqualification over Lynwood Barry, 211, Kingston, North Carolina, who kept flopping to the canvas during clinches and refusing to get up. Referee Tom Gillikin, after giving Barry two eight-counts for being slow to arise after slips, disqualified the tubby fighter when Barry did a near 360-spin before crashing to the canvas without being hit. Both fighters were making their pro debuts.

Portly Max Key, 222, Portsmouth, knocked out portlier Larry Pugh, 250, Hampton, at 2:33 of the first round with a left hook. In an odd scene, Pugh rubbed his nose thrice while laying on the canvas, a la Buster Douglas. Key is 5-3; Pugh's record is unconfirmed. Rothenberg refereed.

Kimara "Special K" Davis, 146, Portsmouth, knocked out Ty Howard, 150, Hampton, with a right hand 2:43 into the opening round. Davis is 8-1-1 (8). Howard was making his pro debut. Gillikin refereed.

Promoter: Jack Crider
Physician: Dr. Maria Pla
Judges: Jim Traylor, Bebee Exton, Oscar Bryan
Attendance: 350 (estimated)
(11-18-90)

Eric Bottjer

SOUTH AMERICA

ARGENTINA

SANTA FE—Universidad Tecnologica Stadium—American **Vernon Phillips**, 147, beat former Argentine welterweight champion **Marcelo DiCroce**, who quit after being dropped twice in the sixth round.

Junior middleweight Pedro Chavero outpointed Jorge Bernardo over eight rounds.
(11-23-90)

BUENOS AIRES—Former Argentine light heavyweight champion **Jorge "Violin" Salgado**, 182, won a 10-round split decision over Brazilian **Emanuel Britts Camargo**, 183½.

Dario Victor Galindez, the son of former light heavyweight champion Victor Galindez, won his seventh amateur bout, outpointing Walter Palacio.
(11-23-90)

MAR DEL PLATA—Former South American super flyweight champion **Oscar Chamorro**, 120, decisioned **Sergio Carlevaris**, 120.
(11-23-90)

BUENOS AIRES—Argentine Boxing Federation Stadium—**Victor Hugo Paz**, 17-0-1, won by disqualification in the eighth round over **Dergio Martinez**, 18-6-7; junior featherweights. Referee: Oscar Coronel.
(11-24-90)

SAN SALVADOR DE JUJUY—**Julio Cesar Miranda** won a 12-round decision over **Faustino Barrios** and captured the South American junior lightweight belt. It was the fourth bout between these two. Miranda is 2-0-2 against Barrios.
(11-30-90)

BUENOS AIRES—Argentine super flyweight champion **Ruben Batista**, 112, retained the title with a fourth-round stoppage of **Juan Angel Ramirez**, 113.
Television: VCC (Video Cable)
Attendance: 753
(12-1-90)

BUENOS AIRES—Club Athletic Argentina—**Luis Maria Diaz** outpointed Mexican **Albino Rosas** over 10 rounds in a terrific bout; junior lightweights.
Promoter: Hernan Santos Nicolini
Attendance: 630
(12-1-90)

Carlos Irusta

COLOMBIA

BARRANQUILLA—Suri Salcedo Basketball Stadium—**Alvaro Mercado** won an unpopular decision over **Julio Gudino**; featherweights. The scores were 98-97, 98-95, and 98-97, all for the winner. Mercado left the ring with a cut lip and swollen cheeks.

In a bantamweight encounter, Carlos Rocha, 19-0-3 (10), TKO'd Humberto Beleno in the second round. Beleno is winless in four bouts and has been kayoed thrice.

Unbeaten featherweight Rafael Zuniga, 19-0-2 (13), got off the floor to kayo Eddie Hernandez in the first round.

In a battle of bantamweights, Isidro Tejedor, 3-0 (3), the brother of former world title challenger Francisco Tejedor, registered a first-round kayo over David Alfaro.

In a junior bantamweight matchup, Wilfrido Rocha, 12-1 (11), kayoed Ricardo Ruiz in the second round.

Francisco Tejedor, 29-1 (20), TKO'd Daniel Giovanni in the fifth round; flyweights. The bout ended when Giovanni failed to answer the bell for the sixth.

At middleweight, Adolfo Caballero outpointed Diosnel Anaya over 10 uneventful rounds.
(11-30-90)

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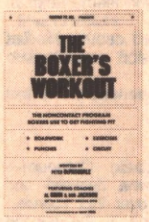

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BARRANQUILLA—Terpel Gymnasium—Lightweight **Omar Gonzalez**, 14-1-1 (10), TKO'd **Carlos Rodriguez** in the first round.

Isidro Tejedor, 4-0 (3), won a narrow decision over Alejandro Valdez, 0-2; junior featherweights. The verdict was met with boos.

Two lightweights made their pro debuts. Nicolas Arrazola won a unanimous decision over Osvaldo Perez in a four-round battle.

Harold Mestre kayoed Jose Melendez in the first round; bantamweights.
(11-30-90)

CARTAGENA—Bernardo Carballo Coliseum—Local featherweight **Victor Llerena** debuted and decisioned veteran **Luis Berrio** over four rounds.

Victor Polo TKO'd Jose Zappa in the second round; bantamweights. Polo was hammering Zappa when the referee stopped the action.

Featherweight Manuel Alvarez made his pro debut with a sixth-round TKO over Bernardo Contreras.

In a bantamweight bout, Harold Grey debuted and kayoed Roberto Silgado in the first round.

Manuel Valdez decisioned Manuel Salas over eight rounds; welterweights.

Junior lightweight Fernando Caicedo kayoed Juan Gomez in the fifth round.

Veteran Arcelio Diaz was awarded a TKO victory when Luis Miranda didn't answer the bell for the sixth round; featherweights.

Attendance: 500 (estimated)

Promoter: Procobox

MONTERIA—Former WBC bantamweight champion **Miguel "Happy" Lora**, 118, decisioned Chile's **Bernardo Mendoza**, 122, over 10 rounds. Mendoza's only big round was the ninth, when he was able to land with Lora trapped on the ropes. Lora, 31-1 (14), seemed slow and sluggish throughout.

Pedro Salgano outpointed Rodrigo Valdez over 10 rounds; junior featherweights.

Pupy Lora stopped Rodrigo Valdez in the first round; middleweights.

Juan Sanchez won by decision over Juilo Moreno over six rounds; bantamweights.

Asdrubal Velasquez kayoed Jose Badilla in the ninth round; strawweights.

Attendance: 10,000 (estimated)
(12-14-90)

CARTAGENA—Bernardo Carabalo Coliseum—Colombian prospect **Jorge Eliecer Julio**, 15-0 (15), remained unbeaten with a 10th-round TKO over **Roberto Schoening**. Schoening, 20-3 (3), was floored for the first time as a pro in the ninth, and quit in the 10th.

Julio Llerena continued his comeback with a 10-round decision over Wilson Palacios, 22-2 (6); lightweights.

World-rated Elvis Alvarez, 19-2-1 (11), kayoed Robinson Quiroz in the second round; flyweights.

Adolfo Caballero, 15-0, registered a second-round kayo over Edilberto Villarreal; middleweights.

Guido Trivino battled James Guevara for four rounds. The bantamweight bout was declared a no contest.

Jesus Zuniga fought to a four-round draw with Edwin Pena; flyweights.

Attendance: 9,000 (estimated)
(12-15-90)

Notes: Victor Cano, a former fighter who became a trainer, was killed in a holdup on November 17. Cano, who defeated Alphonso Halimi and Antonio Cervantes, was 52.

Luis A. Gonzalez

FRENCH GUYANA

CAYENNE—Hall of Sports—French super featherweight champion **Jacobin Yoma** had to use all of his reserves to earn a well deserved decision over American **Jessie "The Law" Torres**, a policeman from Illinois.

The game and superbly fit Torres carried the fight to Yoma throughout the fight, though he suffered from a bloody nose from the fifth round onwards. But Yoma, 10-0-1, met his charges with equal aggression and emmence hand speed that gave him the edge in almost every round, though nothing could be taken away from Torres, 10-5.

Laurence Leonce, 2-0, had little difficulty in stopping Hamed Zaalouni, Algeria, in the fifth round. The referee stopped it when Zaalouni, 6-7, sustained a badly cut nose.
(12-7-90)

GUYANA

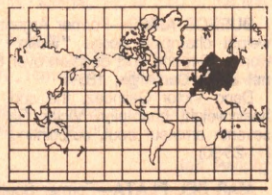
GEORGETOWN—National Sports Hall—Welterweight champion **Michael Benjamin**, 147, was extended to the fullest by Trinidadian **Desbourne Seaton**, 148, in a hectic battle over 10 rounds, which fortunately ended in a draw. The scores: 98-94 Seaton, 99-92 Benjamin, and 96-96. It was a thrilling bout. Benjamin, 16-2-2, used all of his boxing skills in the final two rounds to keep out of the reach of the heavier punching Seaton, 9-2-1.

Lightweight Ian Bancroft, 2-0-1, had a tough time in gaining a split decision from Alan Atherly, 0-2, in a very lively six-rounder.

Welterweight Andrew Murray, 2-2, was TKO'd by Pascal David, 3-1, in the first round. The doctor stopped the bout after Murray was cut above the left eye.

In a supporting featherweight contest over 10 rounds, a lackluster Joseph Murray, 10-1, managed to gain a unanimous decision over Anthony "Dynamite" Williams, 12-8-1, Barbados.
(11-25-90)

Will R. Boodhoo



EUROPE

GREAT BRITAIN

ENGLAND

SHEFFIELD—City Hall—**Carl Crook**, 135, the Commonwealth lightweight champion, Chorley, outpointed **Tony Richards**, 135, Nottingham, to annex the vacant British title. Crook, 23-1, boxed behind a good jab and exhibited some powerful crosses to control the pace. Referee Billy Rafferty made him a 118½-115½ points victor.

The highlight of the night unquestionably was the masterful skill exhibited by Paul "Silky" Jones, 153½, Sheffield, who outclassed the dangerous Jason "Pitbull" Rowe, 153, Leeds, over 10 rounds to lift the Central Area light middleweight title. Jones more than lived up to his nickname and was awarded a shutout 100-94½ verdict by referee Rafferty.

Sheffield's Nigel Bradley, 142½, knocked out B.F. Williams, 142, Watford, at 1:12 of round two in a scheduled six.

Wayne Windle, 141½, Sheffield, outpointed Andy Robbins, 143, Swansea, over six twos. Scoring: 59½-58.
(11-14-90)

BIRMINGHAM—Chief support on the Eubank-Benn undercard was **Michael Watson**, 162, Islington, scoring a one-sided third-round knockout of Coventry's **Errol Christie**, 163. This was Watson's first outing since his unsuccessful bid against WBA kingpin Mike McCallum, and he took the opportunity to put himself back amongst the cream of the middleweights.

Christie was down from Watson's first solid punch, a straight right. He crawled to his feet and barely lasted the round. Watson unleashed a similar right in the third, and this time referee John Coyle completed the count after 48 seconds had elapsed.

Errol McDonald, 148½, Nottingham, produced a workmanlike performance and forced Great Harwood's Ray Taylor, 151, to retire at the end of three rounds with an injured right hand. McDonald's undoubted potential demands a higher class of opponent.

Edinburgh's Sean Heron, 170½, outpointed Castleford's Dave Owens, 175, over eight rounds by a 79½-77 margin.

Herbie Hide, 192½, Norwich, halted Steve Lewsam, 193, Grimsby, at the 2:38 mark of the opening round. Referee: Mike Donovan.

Paul Busby, 161, Wolverhampton, outpointed Birmingham's Carlos Christie, 166, over six twos. Referee Donovan scored 59½-58½.
(11-16-90)

BETHNAL GREEN—York Hall—**Thunder Aryeh**, 130, Ghana, outpointed Manchester's **Najib Daho**, 127, to win the vacant Commonwealth super featherweight title. Aryeh's jab paved the road to victory as it constantly hit the mark with speed and accuracy. He refused to stand and trade at any point, and his elusive style bewildered the southpaw Daho.

Daho tired badly over the final few rounds but, to his credit, managed to stay the full course. Referee Dave Parris scored 119-117 in favor of Aryeh, signaling the start of his second reign as Commonwealth champion.

Everton Blake, 179, Luton, decisioned George Carman, 181, over six rounds. Referee Mike Jacobs' score of 59½-57½ in favor of Blake was greeted with some surprise; most ringsiders had adjudged Carman a close winner.

Michael Driscoll, 141, Portsmouth, stopped Sheffield's Wayne Windle, 140, in the third of a scheduled six rounds. A right hand that opened a cut over Windle's left eye prompted the referee to halt the action at the 1:02 mark of the third.

Chesterfield's Lee Fox, 130, outpointed East Ham's Bobby Guynan, 129½, over six twos. Referee Parris scored 59-58½.

Felix Kelly, 135, Paddington, halted Steve Leftwich, 138, High Wycombe, in round three of a scheduled six twos. Referee Parris intervened at the 1:47 mark.

Andrew Robinson, 138, Birmingham, outpointed Tottenham's Sugar Free, Somerville, 131½, by 59-58½ on referee Jacobs' card.
(11-26-90)

SUNDERLAND—Crowtree Leisure Centre—British bantamweight champion **Billy Hardy**, 117, Sunderland, defended the title with an eighth-round stoppage of **Ronnie Carroll**, 117, Glasgow. Carroll proved he was made of stern substance, but in the end he succumbed to the vicious assaults of Hardy. Referee John Coyle stopped the contest at 1:52 of round eight with Carroll barely able to defend himself. Hardy, as the IBF mandatory challenger, is now in line for a long-awaited rematch with Orlando Canizales.

Adam Fogerty, 233, Halifax, scored a second-round stoppage over Swindon's Denroy Bryan, 211, in a contest scheduled for eight. A right-left combination put Bryan down for a count of nine, and the followup onslaught prompted referee Arnold Bryson's intervention at 2:57 of round two.

Barry Messam, 151, Nottingham, stopped Mark Jay, 154, Newcastle, in the fifth of a scheduled six twos. Referee Thompson stepped in at the 28-second mark because of bad cuts around Jay's eyes.

Johnny Patters, 133, Newcastle, outpointed Darren Handerson, 132, Leeds, by 59-58½ over six twos.

Croydon's Roger McKenzie, 194¾, decisioned Denzil Brown, 188, Leeds, over six twos. Referee Thompson's verdict was 60-58.
(11-29-90)

Brian Doogan

WALES

CARDIFF—Manchester's **Tony Ekubia**, 139, stopped Zambia's **David Chibuey**, 139½, after five rounds to retain the Commonwealth light welterweight title. He also holds the British title. Ekubia was dominant throughout, depositing his challenger onto the canvas in rounds three and four before a left and right prompted referee Adrian Morgan to halt proceedings at 41 seconds of round five.

Cardiff's Steve Robinson, 128½, stopped Neil Haddock, 128½, Llanelli, with a cut eye in the ninth of a scheduled 10 rounds. Referee Wynford Jones was left with no choice but to stop the bout because of the severity of the injury, which he duly did after 41 seconds of the ninth round.

Robbie Regan, 113, Cefn Forest, lated Dagenham's Ricky Beard, 114, at 1:05 of the sixth and final round. Referee Morgan stopped the fight to prevent Beard from receiving further punishment.

Llanelli's Carlo Colarusso, 154½, stopped Cardiff's Gary Pemberton, 157¾, in the third of a scheduled six.

Middlesborough's Paul Forrest, 128, outpointed Darren Weller, 128, Cardiff, over six twos. Referee Jones scored 59½-58.

Dave Andrews, 147¾, Merthyr, stopped Andy Williams, 146, Gardiffaith, at 1:12 of the first round. A cut over Williams' eyebrow prompted referee Morgan's intervention.
(11-19-90)

Brian Doogan

FINLAND

HELSINKI—**Tarmo Uusivirta**, 167¾, Jyvaskyla, 21-3-3 (14), used his superior strength to wear

down and knock out **James Shavers**, 167¼, St. Paul, Minnesota, at 1:10 of the fifth round.

The career of Jouni Kopola, 186½, Helsinki, 1-4-1 (1), came to an end when Jukka Jarvinen, 220¾, Helsinki, 2-0 (2), stopped him at 1:15 of the fifth round.

Jan Nyholm, 140¼, Kirkkonummi, 9-1-2 (3), cruised to a boring eight-round unanimous decision over Alberto Alicia, 139¼, Ponce, Puerto Rico, 7-16 (4).

Jan Nyman, 149, Pori, showed a lot of rust, but willed his way through Larry Nichols, 149, Pensacola, Florida, in this all-southpaw clash. Nyman cut Nichols over the right eyelid in the fifth round, and Nichols wasn't allowed out for the sixth.

Manny Santiago, 119½, Haverhill, Massachusetts, 6-4 (6), kayoed Antti Juntumaa, Oulu, 5-3 (3), at 1:59 of the fourth round.

Jyrki Vierela, 129, Rovaniemi, showed great promise and won all six rounds as he outpointed 46-year-old American Jeff Hanna, 129, Indianapolis, 20-25-2 (12).

Promoter: Tom Sjoberg
Referees: Olli Maki, Erkki Meronen
(12-3-90)

Petri Paimander

GERMANY

HAMBURG—Wansbeker Sport Hall—In a bout for the International German title, champion **Niyazi Aytekin**, Turkey, retained the title with a fifth-round stoppage of **Patrick Pipa**, Germany. Pipa had been boxing brilliantly, and appeared to have the bout sewn up, but became careless and was dropped by a left hook. Pipa beat the count, but referee Kurt Stroer stopped the bout.

Heavyweight Axel Schulz TKO'd fellow German Jens Ploesser in the first round.

Light heavyweight southpaw Henry Maske used his superior jab in outpointing American Sean Mannion.

Cruiserweight Marcus Bott decked American David John Butler in the first round and stopped him in the second.

Nelson Alex Alves won a spilt decision over American Randy Smith; super middleweights.

Heavyweight Knut Blin won the vacant International German title with a seventh-round kayo of Mario Guedes. The bout was stopped when Guedes complained of broken ribs.

Protmoter: Universum Box Promotion
Attendance: 2,000 (estimated)
(11-16-90)

KARLSRUHE—Europa Hall—Briton **Johnny Nelson** won the vacant European cruiserweight title with a 12th-round stoppage of **Marcus Bott** at 2:43 of the round. Nelson, who has often been disappointing, needed a good boxer to bring out the best in him.

Bott was nicked on the left cheek in the openning round, and was dropped in the second. As the fight progressed, Nelson continued to land punches on the cut, which eventually became five centimeters long. There was lively action in the final round until the referee stopped the action to have the ringside doctor inspect Bott's wound. The referee than stopped the fight.

Owen Reece outpointed Federic Porter over six rounds; super middleweights.

Heavyweight Axel Shulz decisioned Ramon Voorn over six rounds.

Argentine Jorge Salgado stopped Italian champion Antonio Manfredini in the seventh round; cruiserweights.

International German light heavyweight champion Ali Saidi outpointed Argentine Ramon Gasper Abeldano over eight rounds.

Promoter: Universum Box Promotion
Physicians: Dr. Walter Wagner, Dr. Stephan Holthusen
Attendance: 1,800 (estimated)
(12-14-90)

BERLIN—Sporthall Charlottenburg—Former IBF super middleweight champion **Graciano Rocchigiani**, 30-0, outpointed American **Mike Sedillo** over eight rounds. Sedillo's attacks were determined, and the German had to dig down deep to overcome a cut eye and nose. Referee: Norbert Krosch.

Southpaw cruiserweight Henry Maske decisioned Glazz Campbell over eight rounds. Maske, 7-0, boxed immaculately behind his jab and countered well. The Briton gave Maske his toughest fight yet.

Alex Shulz outpointed Briton Barry Ellis over six rounds; heavyweights.

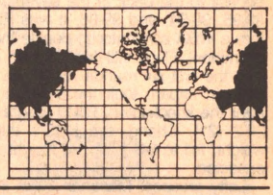
Adrikan Rudenko drew with American James Salerno.

Mario Schiesser decisioned Hans Wenn in a scrappy heavyweight bout.

Andy Marks decisioned Salvador Yanez; junior middleweights.

Promoter: Wilfried Sauerland
Matchmakers: Jean Marcel Nartz, Peter Bedewitz, Klaus Speer
Attendance: 2,197

Jack Tree



THE ORIENT

JAPAN

OSAKA—Osaka Prefectural Gymnasium—Sensational kayo artist **Joichiro Tatsuyoshi**, 119, engaged in a non-title go with Filipino **Jun Cardinal**, the GAB's third-ranked contender, 120, and impressively disposed of him at 3:04 of the second round in a scheduled 10. "The Japanese Ruben Olivares" banged Cardinal from all angeles. Cardinal withstood the opening attacks, but a knockout appeared to be inevitable. In the next session, Tatsuyoshi overwhelmed the Filipino with a flurry, and Cardinal collapsed. He made no effort to stand up. Tatsuyoshi is 5-0 (5); the loser 7-5-2 (3). The Japanese sensation will next meet the WBA's seventh-ranked Abraham Torres of Venezuela, 13-1 (5), in Tokyo. He is already scheduled for a shot at the world throne, either at bantamweight or junior featherweight, in June.

Unbeaten Hiroshi Kuwata, the JBC's sixth-ranked junior welterweight, 137, outpointed Filipino Jonathan Pin, 136, in 10.

Yoshikazu Tamasaki, the JBC's number-seven

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featherweight, 125, won over Koji Tamaki, 125, in 10.
Promoter: Osaka Teiken Promotions
(12-18-90)

HACHINOHE—Hachinohe City Gymnasium—OPBF junior middleweight champion **Carlos Elliott**, the WBA's top contender, 155¾, won a close but unanimous 10-round decision over Korean **Seung Tae Chang**, 156½, after he survived an unexpected visit to the deck in the seventh session. Scores: 99-95, 98-94, and 99-96. It was Elliott's tuneup before a WBA eliminator to decide the new 154-pound champion. Elliott will face Gilbert Dele in France.

In the first six rounds, Elliott, an American citizen living in Japan, took the initiative with sharp jabs. After the knockdown, Elliott fought cautiously. He is 26-2 (21). Chang, the KBC's third-ranked welterweight, fell to 8-3-1 (3). He fought much better than expected.

Lefty prospect Masanori Sato, 141, upped to 6-0 (6), as he needed just 2:47 of the opening session to demolish Arrow Imura, 142¼, in a scheduled 10. Sato, with good amateur experience, is ranked third, and all the contenders are reluctant to meet him. Imura is 9-4 (5).
Promoter: Hachinohe Teiken Promotions
(11-24-90)

TOKYO—Korakuen Hall—OPBF lightweight champion **Iwao Otomo**, the WBA's number-eight contender, 135, struggled to earn a split 12-round decision over Filipino lefty **Bernabe Aliping**, 135, to retain the title for the fourth time. Otomo, a give-and-take stylist, absorbed much punishment until his opponent got tired from hitting him. In the opening round, Aliping caught the champion with a vicious left, dropping him on the seat of his trunks. The awkward Japanese showed his recuperative power and incredible durability, overcame the deficit on points, and battered the Filipino over the last four rounds. Scores: 116-114 and 117-114 for Otomo, and 118-113 for Aliping. Otomo, in the twilight of his career, is 22-3-4 (19); Aliping 31-12-3 (14).

Unbeaten middleweight prospect Shinji Takehara, 158¾, extended to 8-0 (7) as he dropped Korean Keon Soo Park, 154½, twice before Park's cornerman tossed in the towel at 2:35 of the opening session of the semifinal 10. Takehara, a tall rookie, is the JBC's second-ranked 160-pounder.

Mexican import Mario Alberto Rodriguez, 127, proved too strong and sharp for Korean Doil Shin, 128, floored him with a well-timed left hook in the third, and halted him after the fourth session in a scheduled 10. Rodriguez, highly ranked in Mexico, is reportedly 25-7-2 (23); Shin 3-2-2.

In an upset, Korean Hyun Chul Lee, 114, won a hairline but unanimous decision over fast-rising Tomoki Morikawa, the JBC's third-ranked flyweight, 114¾, in 10. Lee had fought well but lost to David Griman Mendez in his previous bout here. The KBC's third-ranked junior bantamweight sent Morikawa to the deck with a wicked left hook in the second. Morikawa desperately attempted to overcome a points deficit in the later rounds, but his efforts weren't enough. Scores: 97-96 (twice) and 97-95. Lee is 8-4 (5). Morikawa, a tall and skinny speedster, fell to 14-4-1 (10).
Promoter: Okawa and Kyoei Promotions
(11-26-90)

TOKYO—Korakuen Hall—Sensational flyweight puncher **Puma Toguchi**, the Japanese champion, 112, saw his kayo streak end at 10, as he had to settle for a lopsided decision over ex-champion **Yosuka Matsuoka**, 111½. The loser made two visits to the deck. It was his second defense. Toguchi fired with his weight behind his punches, but he wasn't good at defending himself. After Toguchi fought back with furious blows, the ex-titlist threw few powerful blows and he absorbed considerable punishment. In the later rounds, Toguchi revealed his lack of stamina and often lost balance in swinging wildly. In the ninth and 10th, the champion dropped his foe with left hooks. Toguchi, the WBC's 16th-ranked contender, is 12-0 (11). Matsuoka, who showed his fighting spirit and won the praise of the crowd, fell to 18-7-3 (8).

In a supporting eight, ex-national bantamweight boss Soichi Shimamura, 122, made a comeback and outpointed Noboru Ogihara, 122. Despite a 20-month layoff, Shimamura outsped Ogihara with sharp one-two combos to earn a close verdict. Shimamura is 11-4 (4); Ogihara 13-5-3 (6).
Promoter: Victory Promotions
(11-29-90)

TOKYO—Korakuen Hall—**Rick Yoshimura**, 139, kept stinging snappy jabs, paid considerable respect to the punching power of **Eiji Kikuzaki**, the top contender, 139½, and finished him with a barrage of lefts and rights at 2:39 of the seventh round in a scheduled 10. The lanky American, living in Japan, scored his second successful defense with great ease. It was a onesided affair. In the fatal session, Yoshimura pinned the challenger to the ropes and connected with very effective left hooks. The loser listened to referee Shimakawa count up to 10. The winner bettered to 10-3 (6). Kikuzaki, poor at defending himself, fell to 18-5-4 (15).

Having suffered a fractured jaw in his kayo defeat vs. Naoto Takahashi in October, Masahiro Uchikoshi, 124¾, made his comeback and chalked up an impressive TKO over Takanori Takakura, 125, at 1:25 of the fourth session in a semifinal 10. Uchikoshi, a stylish boxer-puncher, caught his foe with a one-two and sent him to the canvas in round two, and floored him again with a smashing left hook, followed by sharp combinations, in the fatal round. Uchikoshi is 12-1-1 (5). Takahura, piloted by ex-world flyweight champion Susumu Hanagata, fell to 4-4 (0).

Unbeaten prospect Yuichi Hosono, the JBC's fifth-ranked strawweight, 108, made an impressive display of powerful punches in demolishing Korean Chang Ho Chun, the KBC's seventh-ranked contender, 108, at 1:27 of the third session in the first tenner. Hosono, 9-0 (6), battered the loser with solid left hooks. Chun fell to 7-4-3 (2).
Promoter: Teiken Promotions
(12-1-90)

NAGOYA—Nagoya International Conference Arena—**Takashi Murata**, 127½, decked **Atsuhiko Ueno**, 126, in the fifth round and gained a shutout decision (scores of double 100-96 and 100-94) in 10. Murata, a former winner of the Novice King tourney in the Nagoya zone, is 8-3-1 (6); Ueno 7-2-1 (5).
(12-1-90)

KOGA—Koga City Gymnasium—Having failed to win the vacant Japanese junior featherweight throne in his bout vs. Manabu Saijo in February, **Susumu Toyosato**, 122, went to Mexico to learn how to box, returned here, and registered a TKO over **Alan (Escalante) Tanaka**, 121¼, at 2:23 of the 10th and final session. Toyosato, the JBC's third-ranked 122-pounder, is 10-1 (8).
Promoter: Eighteen Promotions
(12-2-90)

NAGOYA—Tsuyuhashi Sports Center—Prior to his scheduled crack at the WBC super bantamweight title against Pedro Decima here in February, **Kiyoshi Hatanaka**, a local favorite ranked third in the bantamweight class by the WBC, 120, halted Filipino **Ric Bajelot**, 117¼, at 1:22 of the eighth session in a scheduled 10. Hatanaka, a 5'7" upright stylist, was befuddled by the flexible Bajelot in the early rounds. But he battered the midsection and weakened him effectively.

In the seventh Hatanaka dropped Bajelot with a sharp one-two combo. The referee, in the next session, declared a halt after Hatanaka sent Bajelot sprawling to the canvas again. The winner is 21-1-1 (14); Bajelot 17-10-6.
Promoter: Matsuda Promotions
(12-4-90)

TOKYO—Korakuen Hall—Japanese junior middleweight champion **Hitoshi Kamiyama**, 151, hit the deck in the fourth, but came back furiously and scored a come-from-behind kayo over **Masumi Yamaguchi**, the top contender, 152¼, at 1:44 of the fifth round in a scheduled 10. It was a see-saw fight, with Yamaguchi swinging freely and Kamiyama retaliating. Kamiyama, the WBC's number-28 contender, raised to 17-1-1 (9). He has defended the national throne seven times with determination and durability. Yamaguchi, who exhausted his stamina with his wild punching, dipped to 7-3-2 (6).

Filipino sensation Ala Villamor, the WBC's seventh-ranked strawweight, 105, came here for the second time after seizing the vacant Philippine title, was amazingly felled in the fourth round, but dropped ex-Japanese champion Yasuo Yogi, 106½, thrice and flattened him at 59 seconds of the ninth round in the semifinal 10. His left leg, injured during training in Cebu, prevented him from showing his usual sharpness, and his failure to step back smoothly caused him to be floored by Yogi's counter right midway through the fourth. Villamor suffered considerable damage, but fought back gamely to floor Yogi with a southpaw left to the face in round five.

Except for the fourth, it was a lopsided affair, with the 20-year-old Filipino dominating and scoring knockdowns with vicious body shots in the eighth and the fatal ninth sessions. Villamor, however, must improve his defensive skill. He registered the 13th consecutive kayo and raised to 16-0 (15). Yogi, Okinawa, fell to 10-6-2 (6).

In a supporting six, Douglas Ryuma, the JBC's third-ranked junior welterweight, 139½, outpunched Koichi Yokota, the number-nine contender, 139. Douglas is 13-5 (6); Koichi 7-7-3 (6).
Promoter: Shin Nihon Kimura Promotions
(12-10-90)

TOKYO—Korakuen Hall—Rugged puncher **Takeyuki Akagi**, the WBC's eighth-ranked super featherweight, 129½, utilized his footwork in the first seven rounds and outmaneuvered stylist **Kenichiro Kojo**, the defending champion, 130, then changed his strategy to come forward in the last three rounds. He regained the Japanese junior lightweight throne by unanimous decision in 10. Akagi had lost the crown via close but unanimous verdict to Kojo in the Carnival of Champions in January 1990.

Kojo tried to mix with the elusive Akagi, and it looked a close affair before Akagi turned loose from the eighth round on. Scores: 99-96, 98-95, and 99-95. The winner upped to 12-1 (7). The dethroned champion fell to 14-7-3 (3).

Kimio Hirano, the WBA's number-eight minimumweight contender, 110, was floored in round one, but dominated from there and won a unanimous decision (scores of 98-92, 98-91, and 98-94) over tricky Korean Sung Kyu Kim, 110, in 10. Hirano, 9-3-3 (1), is gunning for a shot at the winner of the WBA mandatory title bout between Koreans Bong Jun Kim and Hi Yong Choi in February. But he needs to improve his punching power to wrest the world throne. Kim fell to 6-10-3 (2).
Promoter: Yonekura Promotions
(12-11-90)

OSAKA—Osaka Prefectural Gymnasium—Tall speedster **Masuaki Takeda**, the WBA's 12th-ranked featherweight, 132¼, disposed of Korean **Joung Hue Park**, 131¼, at 2:52 of the ninth round and extended his winning streak to 19. Takeda had entered the WBA's top 10 after his lopsided upset win over Jose (Escamilla) Yamashita in July. Though ranked in the 126-pound class, Takeda cannot make the limit any longer and campaigns as a junior lightweight. With more experience, he may become a good prospect. He is 15-1 (5), with his sole loss coming in his pro debut in 1987.

Akira Ohigashi, the JBC's fourth-ranked welterweight, 146, scored a quick TKO over tall lefty Jiro Kashiwara, 147, at 2:55 of the second round.
(12-12-90)

TOKYO—Korakuen Hall—Japanese junior bantamweight champion **Katsuya Onizuka**, 114¾, needed just 78 seconds to polish off overmatched **Tomohiko Yokoyama**, the number-10 contender, 114¼. It was his first defense. The tall prospect had dethroned Shunichi Nakajima via 10th-round stoppage in October. Onizuka used a sharp left hook to drop his foe twice and for the count. Onizuka, the WBA's third-ranked 115-pounder, is 15-0 (14). Yokoyama, a former Novice King tourney winner, is 7-2 (4).

Mexican import Miguel Angel Gonzalez, the WBC's 13th-ranked lightweight, 135¼, appeared under the Japanese *nom-de-guerre* Santa Tokyo, amazed the crowd with his superb speed and skill, and easily halted Korean Tae Bok Yum, 135¾, at 38 seconds of the fifth round in a scheduled 10. Gonzalez was battering and toying with the Korean, steadily piling up points. In the fatal session, he fired a wicked right uppercut, sending Yum to the canvas. A towel was thrown in to save the loser. Gonzalez, 20, bettered to 15-0 (13). He had an excellent amateur record of 62-1 (50). Mack Kanehira, his business manager here, will have a tough time finding opponents, so the fighter will likely have to meet Korean rivals.

Another Mexican, Memo Flores, ranked ninth at flyweight in his country, 109¼, started slowly, was floored with the smashing southpaw left of Korean Jun Dong Choi, 108½, but swarmed over his fading opponent and finished him at 1:16 of the sixth session in the first 10. Flores is 33-7 (27). Despite his power punching, he didn't look sharp. Choi fell to 5-4 (1).
Promoter: Kyoei Promotions
(12-17-90)

TOKYO—Korakuen Hall—Russian prospect **Yuri Arbachakov**, the WBC's 15th-ranked flyweight, 112, proved to be the real thing, as he displayed a beautiful one-punch knockout of former IBF world flyweight champion **Rolando Bohol**, 115¼, at 1:45 of the second session in a scheduled 10. Bohol, who lost the IBF throne to Duke McKenzie via kayo in October 1988, wasn't a shot fighter. He looked

sharp as he befuddled Arbachakov with opening rallies. The winner, a World Cup gold medalist in 1988, remained cool and averted Bohol's punches with swift footwork and good defense. Midway through the second, the Russian swayed back from a big southpaw left and scored with a well-timed counter right. Bohol fell flat and was counted out. Even after the fatal 10, the Filipino couldn't raise himself.

Arbachakov said, "I will become the first Russian to win a professional world title."

This reporter believes he has the talent and potential to make his words come true. The Russian speedster, whose amateur log was 165-21, was born on February 22, 1966. He is 6-0 (6). Bohol fell to 26-5-3 (5).

Imported Mexican Alejandro Sanabria, the WBC's 24th-ranked flyweight, 113¾, battered slower Korean Yung Un Yun, 113¾, and stopped him at 2:34 of the third session in a scheduled 10. In the fatal session, Sanabria floored Yun with body punches, and the referee called a halt. Sanabria is 26-4-1 (19); Yun 8-6-1 (2).

Mexican Humberto Gonzalez Camarena (not former WBC light flyweight king "La Chiquita" Gonzalez), 119¼, proved too aggressive and strong for Korean Ho Sub Moon, 113¾, and scored a TKO at 2:34 of the third session in a scheduled 10. The winner is 12-3 (7); the loser 9-4-2 (3).

Russian import Lusran Taramov, 174, needed just 31 seconds to dispose of Korean Nam Shin Hyun, 171, in the first 10. Taramov is 5-0 (5).

Promoter: Kyoei Promotions
(12-20-90)

TOKYO—Korakuen Hall—Having forfeited the Japanese bantamweight title at the destructive hands of Joichiro Tatsuyoshi last September, **Shigeru Okabe**, 116½, engaged in a comeback go and was held to a split draw by **Masaki Yamaoka**, 118, in 10. Yamaoka, ranked 10th by the JBC, fought much better than expected, covered himself up with his peekaboo guard and occasionally threw big punches. Okabe utilized his footwork and answered with light but sharper blows. Scores: 97-95 Okabe, 98-97 Yamaoka, and 97-97. Okabe is 16-2-1 (8); Yamaoka 7-1-1 (5).

Ryoichi Kobayashi, Yamaoka's stablemate, ranked ninth at featherweight, 126, dominated with superior power and took a lopsided decision over Katsuymi Maruyama, 125, in 10. Kobayashi is 8-2-2 (4); Maruyama, the JBC's eighth-ranked lightweight, 8-5 (6).

Promoter: Shinto Promotions
(12-24-90)

TOKYO—Korakuen Hall—Who promotes fight cards on December 24th and 25th? A few people, including this reporter, were in attendance as veteran flyweight **Yasutaka Sakurai**, 111¾, outsped, outmaneuvered, and outpunched fast-rising prospect **Yuichi Hinaichi**, 112, winning an upset 10-round nod. Sakurai realized that Hinaichi was punched out and fading in the second half. He steadily piled up points with sharp jabs and accurate one-twos. Scores 99-94, 98-95, and 99-94. Sakurai is 8-8-2 (0); Hinaichi 7-2-1 (3).

Passive Ghanian **Vinny Martin**, the JBC's third-ranked middleweight, 158¾, kept sticking jabs, ran away from Korean Hwa Shik Park, 158¾, and earned a unanimous decision (scores of double 99-98 and 98-96) in 10. Martin, apparently lacking the fighting spirit, refused to exchange toe to toe and kept trotting. The Korean, 8-1 (8), made a comeback after a long layoff, but revealed his inferior stamina. Martin is 7-1-1 (1).

Promoter: Shin Nihon Saito Promotions
(12-25-90)

Joe Koizumi

KOREA

JINJU—Jinju Students Gymnasium—OPBF junior middleweight champion **Byung In Kang**, 160, found it easy to catch Indonesian challenger **Udiana**, 158¾, and battered him en route to a knockout at 1:34 of the second session in a scheduled 12. Kang, who seized the vacant crown via close decision over Australian Graham Looker, registered his first defense with great ease and little risk. Kang sent the Indonesian to the canvas with a straight right in the opening round. The slower Udiana was downed twice more and for the count in the second. Kang is 6-0 (4), but the WBC's number-23 contender needs more speed and sharpness if he wishes to move up in the ratings. Udiana is 15-4 (11).

Unbeaten featherweight prospect Tae Shik Chun, 127¼, took a unanimous duke over aging Thai veteran Mike Hollywood, reportedly 40 years of age,

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SEPTEMBER 1984

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128, in 10. Chun, 12-0 (7), failed to finish the old soldier due to his lack of accurate combinations. The Thai fell to 31-7-1.
(10-13-90)

SEOUL—Hanyang University Gymnasium—In the semifinal of the Moon-Matsumura WBC super flyweight title bout, **Kyung Yun Lee**, the WBC's perennial top contender, 106¾, needed just 34 seconds of the first round to polish off Thai **Vin Chuvatana**, 106¼, in a scheduled 10. Lee is an ex-IBF miniflyweight champion. Lee, a crafty switch-hitter, is 19-1 (8). Chuvatana fell to 14-1-1 (9).

Korean junior middleweight champion Ki Youn Song, 153¾, retained the national crown by outpointing Jun Shik Park, the top contender, 153¼, in 10. Song is 4-2-2 (2); Park 11-7-2 (4).

Up-and-coming flyweight prospect Ki Jung Chang, the KBC's fifth-ranked contender, 114, ran his unbeaten mark to 16-0 (11), as he chalked up an impressive knockout over Thai Chachai Lukmingkwan, 114¼, at 2:44 of the second round in a scheduled 10. The loser, the TBC's third-ranked junior flyweight, fell to 9-2 (3).

Promoter: Camel Promotions
(10-20-90)

KYONGKIDO—Pyongtaek High School Gymnasium—Unbeaten **Dae Jin Kyung**, the top-ranked Korean welterweight, 148½, was more aggressive than Filipino **Jun Ramos**, 147½, from the start, dropped him in the second and eighth rounds, and pulverized him at 1:15 of the eighth in a scheduled 10. Kyung connected with incessant blows in his first bout against a foreign opponent. The Korean is 8-0 (5); Ramos 15-8-2 (5).

Promoter: Camel Promotions
(10-27-90)

TAEGU—Taegu Indoor Gymnasium—In the semifinal of the Kim-Barcenas WBA minimumweight title bout, **Man Soo Kim**, the KBC's fifth-ranked junior lightweight, 128, earned a unanimous decision over Thai **Monchai Sorjaturong**, 128, in 10. Kim is 7-0-2 (4); the Thai 8-5 (5).

Hyun Shik Lee, 156¼, and Sung Chun Lee, 157, battled to a draw in a 10-round eliminator. Lee, the KBC's top middleweight contender, is 5-2-2 (2). Lee, the number-two contender, is 3-2-1 (3).

Promoter: Camel Promotions
(11-3-90)

CHUNJU—Chunju Indoor Gymnasium—**Chang Kyun Oh**, the WBC's third-ranked bantamweight, 122, reappeared after inactivity and earned a unanimous decision over **Emil Paquita**, the Philippine second-ranked contender, 121¼, in 10. Oh failed to catch the puzzling lefty and score an expected kayo. There were no knockdowns. The winner is 28-4-4 (13); Paquita 38-16-17 (15).

Fast-rising lightweight Hoon Sung, 135, repeatedly scored with left-right combinations, but Filipino Flash Ursus, the number-five contender of the GAB, 134¾, refused to go down, and the Korean won a unanimous decision in 10. Sung is 13-3 (7). The durable Filipino is 18-13-10 (8).

Korean junior welterweight champion Chong Heun Yuh, 139¾, kept the national throne by disposing of Kwon Shik Kim, 140, at 1:49 of the fifth session in the first 10-rounder.

Promoter: Ho Yun Chun's Kukdong Promotions
(11-4-90)

CHEJUDO—Cheju Indoor Gymnasium—OPBF featherweight champion **Yung Kyun Park**, the WBA's third-ranked contender, 125¼, had a tough time outscoring Filipino titlist **Cris Saguid**, 125¾, by split decision to barely retain the crown in 12. Park bled from a bad gash over the left eyebrow. Saguid kept boring in, though he missed many blows. Scoring: 118-114 and 118-113 for Park, and 118-114 for Saguid. Park is 16-1-1 (10). Saguid dropped to 24-5-1 (13).

Unbeaten Hi Yong Choi, the WBA's top-ranked minimumweight contender, 106¾, proved too sharp and accurate for Filipino Roger Gamayot, 107¼, polishing him off at 2:36 of the opening session in a supporting 10. Choi, 9-0 (5), is the OPBF 105-pound champion and is waiting for a mandatory title go with compatriot and WBA champion Bong Jun Kim. The match will take place in Korea in January or February. Gamayot fell to 25-8-3 (6).

Sung Woo Lee, 104½, became the new Korean miniflyweight champion by winning a unanimous decision over In Kyu Hwang, 105, in 10. Lee is 11-2-1 (6); Hwang 7-9-5 (1).

Promoter: Chong Young Kim's Hyundai Promotions
(11-10-90)

POHANG—Pohang Gymnasium—In the semifinal of the Woo-Gamez WBA junior flyweight title bout, **Sung Yong Chung**, a former OPBF junior flyweight champion, 112, seized the vacant Korean flyweight title by winning a split decision over Kap Chul Choi, 110¾, in 10. It was a hard-fought battle. Chung dropped the stylish boxer with a one-two combo midway in the third session. He dominated the first six rounds, and was awarded a 10-8 score in the third. Choi, however, turned loose from the sixth round on and swept the last four sessions. *The Ring* scored 96-95 for Chung, although the loser looked more talented than the winner. Chung is 19-2-4 (6); Choi 15-1 (5).

Promoter: Thomas Kim's Dong-A Promotions
(11-10-90)

SEOUL—Munhwa Gymnasium—1988 Olympic gold medalist **Kwang Sun Kim**, 108¼, made a successful pro debut as he pounded out a unanimous decision over hard-hitting Filipino **Manny Melchor**, the GAB's top contender, 107¾, in eight lopsided rounds. Although Kim often pinned his foe to the ropes, Melchor withstood the heavy attacks. In the seventh, Melchor's big right caught the careless Kim, sending him to the deck. But Melchor absorbed much punishment thereafter. Kim, 142-6 (85) as an amateur, is hard-punching and skillful.

Chung Il Byon was the Olympian who had sat down in the ring to protest against a decision. Byon, 116¾, was a little befuddled by the durability of Filipino Eddie Torres, the GAB's fifth-ranked bantamweight, 115¾, but finally caught him with a combination to finish him at 1:04 of the ninth round in a semifinal 10.

Promoter: Byongoh Chung's Hwarang Promotions
(11-18-90)

SEOUL—Olympic Park Gymnasium—In the semifinal of the WBC flyweight title bout between Sot Chitalada and Jung Koo Chang, Filipino **Rudy Cabiles**, the OPBF junior lightweight champion, kept the throne, as he was held to a controversial split draw by Jung Soo Yum, 129½, in a very gory 12. Cabiles had wrested the OPBF crown via upset decision over world-rated Hengky Gun in August. This was his first defense. Cabiles, a short but sturdy infighter, dominated with his aggressive attacks. The Korean absorbed much punishment, but refused to go down before his hometown crowd. The champion sustained bad gashes around his left eye in the third and at the right eyebrow in the fourth, and streamed blood thereafter. Cabiles kept boring in and often pinned his foe to the ropes and battered him with heavy hooks.

Though Cabiles had an edge, the official scores were split, 117-113 for the champion, 117-116 for the challenger, and 117-117. This reporter viewed it 118-113 for the defending titlist. Cabiles, the WBC's number-21 contender, is 14-15-9 (5). Despite his mediocre mark, Cabiles proved powerful, pugnacious, and durable. Yum, a disappointment, is 12-4-6 (7).

Ex-OPBF junior bantamweight champion Byung Kwan Chung, 118, was knocked out by Seung Koo Lee, the KBC's third-ranked contender, 116½, with a wicked liver punch at 1:35 of the third round in a scheduled 10. Chung was whipped by his taller compatriot, who threw sharp straight punches with speed and precision. The winner is 8-2 (7); Chung 18-9-3 (7).

Hard-punching Don Gil Kim, 132, impressively halted Heun Guk Chung, 132¼, with sharp and speedy rallies, and the latter's cornerman tossed in the towel at 2:24 of the fourth session of a scheduled six. Kim will become a good prospect in the junior lightweight class in Korea. He looked much better and stronger than Jung Soo Yum, who challenged OPBF kingpin Rudy Cabiles in the semifinal.

Promoter: Kukdong Promotions
(11-24-90)

BUCHUN—Buchun Civil Arena—**Jung Oh Park**, the newly crowned OPBF welterweight champion, 146¼, retained the throne as he overwhelmed Filipino challenger **Arman Pecar**, 146¼, dropped him twice, and halted him at 2:32 of the opening session in a scheduled 12. Park registered his first defense.

They began exchanging hot rallies from the start, with Pecar hitting the deck from Park's vicious left hook. The Filipino, ranked 10th by the OPBF, returned to the canvas from the champion's followup combinations. Later in the round, Pecar was stopped as he absorbed further punishment. Park, a tall boxer-puncher, raised to 17-2-1 (12). He had failed to win the OPBF crown in his first attempt, when he was knocked out by Fujio Ozaki in February 1989. He has since improved very much. Park, ranked eighth by the WBA, needs better competition to justify his world rating. Pecar fell to 23-13-6 (17).

Kum Soo Yuh, 107½, became the new Korean junior flyweight champion by outscoring Kap Chul Shin, the KBC's second-ranked contender, 107, in 10. The new titlist is 14-2 (8); Shin 10-2 (2).

Up-and-coming Korean featherweight titlist Chong Pil Park, the WBC's 24th-ranked contender, 125½, kept the crown by easily finishing Bong Chun Lee, 126, at 1:25 of the sixth round in a scheduled 10. Park has dominated the national bantamweight and featherweight divisions. He found Lee an easy target and continually battered him with whiplash blows. Park, 17-2 (6), will come to Japan to square off against Naoto Takahashi, formerly rated highly in the junior featherweight division, in February. It will be a good matchup of hard-punching speedsters. Lee dipped to 5-4-3 (3).

Promoter: Camel Promotions
(12-2-90)

ZUNPYONG—Zunpyong Indoor Gymnasium—Veteran puncher **Jun Sok Hwang**, the WBA's third-ranked junior middleweight, 160, failed to score an expected kayo but won a unanimous decision over taller Japanese **Yoshinori Nishizawa**, 160, in 10. There were no knockdowns. Hwang attempted to catch the fast-moving opponent. But he showed his ring rust and couldn't score with his vaunted heavy shots. The ninth round saw Nishizawa begin bleeding from a gash over the right eyebrow, but he lasted the last two sessions. Hwang is 42-4 (29); Nishizawa 6-4-1 (4).

Promoter: Dong-A Promotions
(12-9-90)

Joe Koizumi and Yoo Chang Kim

THAILAND

NOTE: RS and LS stand for Rajadamnern Stadium and Lumpinee Stadium, respectively, boxing meccas in Bangkok where almost all of the bouts in Thailand are held.

BANGKOK—RS—Thai boxing fans, usually fairly reserved, got angry in Rajadamnern Stadium, the boxing mecca in this Buddhist country, and a riot raged until finally ceased by the police. Fans threw ice bags, bottles, and paper to show their anger against the official verdict in this main event. **Falan Lukmingkwan**, the IBF mini flyweight champion, kept the crown with a split draw vs. **Pretty Boy Lucas**, the perennial top contender, the Philippines, over 12 rounds. But the fans disagreed with the scoring; they firmly believed in their favorite's victory. Lucas had lost to Samuth Sithnarvepol on a controversial TKO in an eliminator to decide the first IBF champion in the 105-pound division in Bangkok in March 1988. It was the sole setback for the Filipino, who had defended the Philippine national throne against topnotchers while waiting for another turn.

In his long-awaited mandatory title go, Lucas proved that he wasn't what he used to be. The Pretty Boy wasn't sharp enough to dethrone Lukmingkwan, a young and aggressive southpaw, in the champion's hometown. Wichai Sfijamrae (Thailand) saw the affair 119-110 in the champion's favor, Inguson Pascua (Philippines) tallied 116-112 for Pretty Boy, and Greg Hughes (USA) had it 114-114. The Thai crowd expected the Filipino judge to score for his compatriot. But they disliked neutral official Hughes' draw vote. Their outrageous protest lasted about three minutes, and until some 50 policemen carried the champion to the dressing room.

From the start, the lefty Lukmingkwan was the aggressor, while Lucas kept backpedaling. The Thai piled up points easily in the first four rounds. The fifth session witnessed the Filipino connecting with a good left-right combo that staggered the champion. Lukmingkwan took the sixth with his superior aggressiveness, and Pretty Boy dominated the seventh with body shots. Lukmingkwan maintained his aggression in the last five rounds, but in the 10th, the lanky challenger caught him with one-two combinations to the face.

It was Lukmingkwan's third defense since wresting the IBF crown by seventh-round TKO over Eric Chavez in the same stadium on February 22. Including this title-winning fight, all four defenses have come against Filipinos. Lukmingkwan is 17-1-1 (7); Lucas 27-1-2 (10). Before his crack at the world throne, Pretty Boy had relinquished his national title.

In the semifinal, Sing Sinchachawan, Lukmingkwan's bantamweight stablemate, who is ranked by the IBF, ran his unbeaten log to 12-0 (10), although he had a tough time coping with the rough-and-tumble style of Filipino Romeo Opriasa over 10 rounds.
(12-20-90)

BANGKOK—RS—**Nuengtai Sithumpon**, the eighth-ranked Thai junior featherweight, 122, lost an upset decision to unknown **Siangtip Sithsuer**, 122, in six.
(11-5-90)

BANGKOK—LS— Lefty **Salagchit Sorchitphatana**, the top Thai junior flyweight contender, 114, easily disposed of **Phises Sithfahcamron**, 114, in the first round of a scheduled six. Salgchit is 15-6 (10). He came to Japan and lost a lopsided decision to ex-WBC strawweight champion Hiroki Ioka in Osaka last July. The loser looked quite amateur.
(11-6-90)

BANGKOK—RS—**Seeharach Chorvikul**, the TBC's number-seven flyweight, 110, unanimously decisioned **Pepe Sitharan**, a localite, 110, in six. The winner is 8-2-1 (6).
(11-7-90)

BANGKOK—LS—In a night card at the same stadium, national kickboxing star **Phichit Sithbangprachan**, 114, engaged in his first international-style fight and dropped Korean **Hee Huan Moon**, 114, thrice en route to a third-round kayo in a scheduled 10. The Korean loser bled from the mouth, as four of his teeth were broken by the Thai's assault. The winner may secure a crack at IBF flyweight champion Dave McAuley in the near future.
(11-10-90)

SAMUTHPRAKARN—Sumrong Stadium—**Bangsan Yodmuangdang**, the WBC's number-19 contender, showed his superior power and stopped Korean **Chun Suk Lee** in the fourth round of a scheduled 10.
(11-11-90)

BANGKOK—LS—**Chakapetch Wongvianyai**, a member of Sot Chitalada's camp, 120, produced an upset by copping a unanimous decision over **Nagrub Sorphayathai**, the TBC's second-ranked bantamweight, 122, in six.
(11-13-90)

BANGKOK—RS—**Daorung Chuvatana**, the Thai bantamweight champion ranked fourth by the IBF, 120, scored a kayo over **Jomhod Manakarnchang**, 120, in the second session of a scheduled 10. Chuvatana is 30-4-2 (19).
(11-15-90)

BANGKOK—LS—In an eliminator for the vacant Lumpinee Stadium junior bantamweight title, **Kom Klatsamanvit**, 115, 4-0 (1), was awarded a close but unanimous decision over **Sananpetch Muangsurin**, 115, in 10. Scores: 97-96, 98-96, and 97-95.
(11-16-90)

BANGKOK—LS—**Salagchit Sorchitphatana**, the TBC's top-ranked junior flyweight, 110, needed less than a minute to finish **Carlos Petsompong**, 110, in a scheduled six. The winner is 16-6 (10).
(11-23-90)

BANGKOK—LS—**Ratana Singsamang**, the TBC's top-ranked junior lightweight, 136, polished off **Pandum S. Manakarnchang**, 141, in the first round of a scheduled six. The winner is 21-4 (12).
(11-24-90)

BANGKOK—RS—Formerly ranked in the WBC's top 10 in the 105-pound class, **Chairith Kongudom**, the ex-Thai junior flyweight champion, 113, apparently scaled over his best weight and failed to stop **Pativat Sithsama**, 113, winning a decision over six rounds.
(11-26-90)

BANGKOK—RS—**Rojanadej Sorthasnee**, the TBC's number-four mini flyweight, 108, won over **Thaveelert Tor Boonlert**, 107, in six. The winner is 9-3 (3).
(11-28-90)

BANGKOK—RS—On the supporting card of the WBA bantamweight title bout between Luisito Espinosa and Thanomsak Sithboabay, **Kajkong Denphoothai**, the WBA's third-ranked junior flyweight, was befuddled by the toughness and fighting spirit of Filipino **Fernando Baja**, the GAB's second-ranked contender, but was awarded a close unanimous decision in 10. Denphoothai was jeered by the crowd due to his poor performance. He is 17-2 (10).
(11-29-90)

Joe Koizumi, Ryuichi Kotani, and Naris

THE PHILIPPINES

DAVAO CITY—**Erning Tinoy**, the GAB's second-ranked bantamweight, 121, carved out a TKO over **Rod Boy Loperez**, 121, in the ninth ound of a scheduled 10.

Roger Gamayot, the GAB's number-four junior flyweight, 112, stopped Warlito Franco, 113, in the seventh round of the semifinal 10.
(10-6-90)

QUEZON, BUKIDONON—**Fernando Baja**, the GAB's eighth-ranked junior flyweight, 109, scored a TKO over **Arnold Solitario**, 110, in the fourth round of a scheduled 10.

Brecs Synatra, 124, unanimously decisioned Jongjong Abao, 125, in 10.
(10-11-90)

MANILA—Rizal Memorial Coliseum—WBA bantamweight champion **Luisito Espinosa**, 123½, needed just 1:39 to dispose of Korean **Yong Man Chun**, 125¾, in the first round of a scheduled nontitle 10.

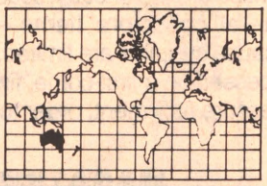
WBC International flyweight ruler Jonathan Penalosa, 113½, pounded out a unanimous decision over Jae Hyun Kim, 114, in 10. Penalosa, a hard-punching southpaw, remains unbeaten.

Dindo Canoy, 132½, won a unanimous nod over Benny Rones, 132½, in 10.

Morris East, a fast-moving black footworker, 134½, outscored Armando Andales, 134, in 10.

Promoter: Simplicio Tiglao
(10-12-90)

Joe Koizumi, Joaquin Henson, and GAB



PAN PACIFIC

AUSTRALIA

NEW SOUTH WALES

BANKSTOWN—The Sports Club—**Vito Gaudiosi**, 153½, caused a surprise when he kayoed **Brett Beakin**, 158, in the first round to win the vacant New South Wales state middleweight title. It was only the second time in 27 fights that Beakin had been stopped; Gaudiosi's punch landed in just the right spot. Referee: John Cauchi.

Darren Mees, 159¾, was declared the winner when Eddie Forte, 164, was disqualified for use of his head in round one.

Florencio Rodriguez, 144½, TKO'd Doug Tange, 145, in six. Referee John Wright rescued Tange.

In a scheduled three, Darren Flynn, 131¼, a nephew of the late Jimmy Carruthers, made his debut and stopped Tom Diab, 133¾, in round two because of a cut eye.

Promoters: Barry Raff, Steve Ghosn
(12-6-90)

LISMORE—The Workers Club—**Chris Dawe**, 134¼, won a 10-round split decision over **Tilta Halpin**, 135, to win the vacant New South Wales state lightweight title. It was a very good fight. Scores: 98-94 Dawe and 97-93 for Dawe, and 97-95 for Halpin.

In an eight-rounder, Chris Schafer, 149¾, won a spilt decision over Ian Skinner, 154.

Brenton Bowen, 150, decisioned Guy Parker, 154¼, over eight rounds.

Over six rounds, Martin Roberts, 126¾, outpointed Troy Power, 134½.

Promoter: Col McElwaine
(12-8-90)

MOORE PARK—Hordern Pavilion—Former WBC light heavyweight champion **Jeff Harding**, 174¾, turned in his best performance in outpointing **David Vedder**, 174, over 10. Harding was persistent and he boxed well. The scores: 98-92 (Don Marks), 97-94 (John Cauchi), and 100-92 (Ray Wheatley). *The Ring* scored 97-92 for the Australian.

Also on the Harding-Vedder bill, Australia-based American Mike "The Bounty" Hunter, 207¾, outpointed faded Osvaldo Ocasio, 226¾, over 10. Hunter, a very good boxer, is also a clown, and Sydney fans don't like that, so they booed him. Scores: 97-93, 99-93, and 99-93.

Ted Cofie, 191, stopped Tom Manuel, 193¼, in three.

Brenton Bowen, 148½, stopped Darkie Anderson, 146½, in round five because of a cut eye. Bowen was ahead on points at the time of the stoppage.

Mark Picker, 158, outpointed Don Demezen, 152¾ over six rounds.

Promoter: Bill Mordey
(12-14-90)

QUEENSLAND

MANSFIELD—Mansfield Tavern—**Kid Glover**, 146, won the vacant Queensland state welterweight title with a points win over **Matthew Smith**, 146¾. It was not a good fight.

In another 10, Chris Seng, 152¾, removed the Queensland state junior middleweight throne from Rod Price, 153, with a points decision in a good fight. Scores were 99-92, 99-91, and 99-91. Price was aggressive, but Seng was a step in front of him all the way.

Jeff Hardman, 167¼, halted Greg Liddle, 158¾, in round five because of a cut eye. Hardman was ahead on points at the time of the stoppage.

Over four, Charlie Hansen, 158, outpointed Eddie Damman, 156½.

Taumafai Nik, 163¼, won a four-round decision over Paul Rees, 161.

Michael Doo, 118¼, stopped Des Malcolm, 125¼, in round two because of an injured hand.

Promoter: Col McElwaine
(12-10-90)

Ray Mitchell

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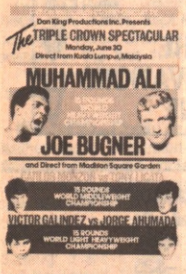

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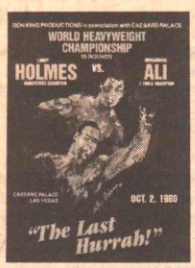

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R-MA-91

MARC PAYTON
(TV Director)

By Jody Schwartz

Academy Award time is near, and directors Martin Scorsese and Francis Ford Coppola are clearing their trophy cases to make room for Oscars. Another director, also known for putting superstars on the screen, will not be mentioned at the Academy, or the Golden Globe or People's Choice awards, either. In fact, outside of the few boxing fans who pay attention to TV credits, you won't find too many people who have heard of Marc Payton. But at HBO, he is the man in the director's chair.

Payton, 42, has been directing HBO's fights since 1981. His primary responsibility before a fight is camera placement, and during a fight, camera selection. (HBO uses as many as 11 different cameras.) "On-air editing," he explained.

There have been plenty of stops on the road to all those superfights. After graduating from the University of Texas with a degree in Radio-Television-Film, the man who would direct such fistic events as Tyson-Spinks and Hagler-Hearns started at the bottom.

"My first job in television was during my senior year in school," Payton recalled. "It was a really glamorous job—I answered the switchboard on weekend nights for a local NBC affiliate."

Between 1975 and 1978, while Payton was working as a sports director for a production company in Houston, the groundwork for his future was laid.

"I met Brad Johnson, who is now vice president of Universal Television in Hollywood," Payton said. "Brad and [HBO producer] Ross Greenburg worked together as production assistants at ABC Sports in the late-'70s.

Brad went on to Showtime and Ross went on to HBO."

In the months that followed, Johnson became familiar with Payton's work. "When Brad was at Showtime, he was involved in a Southwest Conference college football and basketball package," Payton said. "The company that I worked for provided the production facilities, and I worked as the director for those shows."

In late-1979, Greenburg told Johnson that he needed a director for a new HBO show called *Inside The NFL*. Johnson suggested Payton.

"Ross gave me a call and I sent him a demo tape," Payton said. "He sent me back a contract for two shows."

After the first show, Payton was offered the whole season, and until last year, directed *Inside The NFL*. But boxing, not football, has always been the signature of HBO Sports. In January 1981, Greenburg and Payton worked their first fight together, the Marvin Hagler-Fulgencio Obelmejias middleweight title fight at the Boston Garden. The network averages only about one show per month. Payton stays busy by also working for ESPN, directing baseball and football on Sunday nights.

HBO has established the industry standard for televised boxing, and there are rarely major problems in the production truck. But Payton and the rest of the crew found themselves in a tight position just moments before what would develop into the biggest upset in boxing history.

"In February, before the Tyson-Douglas fight, we were about an hour to air, and everything went black," Payton recalled. "We had constructed a production facility in the parking area under the Tokyo Dome. The remote trucks in that country didn't offer the kind of facilities that we needed to do the show that we're used to doing in America. We built our own unit and we were using a generator for power. We were in the control room and everything went blank."

Disaster was averted when the lights went back on 45 minutes before air time.

Douglas-Tyson, of course, was a memorable fight. The better the bout, Payton believes, the better his work becomes.

"If you have a boring fight," he said, "even if the production is perfect, the basic conception will be that it was a boring telecast."

HBO has aired slugfests and stinkers. But as long as Payton commands the cameras while working with Tyson and Chavez, he'll be happy to let Scorsese and Coppola work with DeNiro and Pacino and take home the Oscars. ■

Jody Schwartz studies journalism at C.W. Post College and works part-time at The Ring.

WBC WBA IBF
RATINGS

HEAVYWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Evander Holyfield (USA)	C	C	C
Mike Tyson (USA)	1	1	1
Razor Ruddock (CAN)	2	2	2
George Foreman (USA)	3	3	6
James Douglas (USA)	4	8	10
Gary Mason (GB)	5	4	-
Tim Witherspoon (USA)	6	5	11
Renaldo Snipes (USA)	7	-	-
Alex Stewart (JAM)	8	-	9
Ray Mercer (USA)	9	9	4
Mark Wills (USA)	10	-	-
Carl Williams (USA)	11	6	3
Pierre Coetzer (SA)	-	7	5
Riddick Bowe (USA)	14	10	7
Tony Tucker (USA)	-	-	8

CRUISERWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Massimiliano Duran (ITA)	C	-	-
Anaclet Wamba (FRA)	1	4	8
Carlos DeLeon (PR)	2	7	-
Johnny Nelson (GB)	3	12	9
Taoufik Belbouli (FRA)	4	1	-
Mike Hunter (USA)	5	3	6
Derek Angol (GB)	6	5	-
James Warring (USA)	7	-	5
Nate Miller (USA)	8	2	7
Olian Alexander (USA)	9	-	-
Craig Peterson (AUSTRL)	10	-	-
Robert Daniels (USA)	-	C	-
Bobby Czyz (USA)	-	6	-
Bash Ali (USA)	-	8	3
Richard Mason (USA)	11	9	1
Alfred Cole (USA)	24	10	12
Jeff Lampkin (USA)	-	-	C
Siza Makathini (SA)	-	-	2
Iby Zimmerman (CAU)	-	-	4
Glenn McCrory (GB)	-	11	10

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Dennis Andries (GB)	C	-	-
Guy Waters (AUSTRL)	1	2	-
Jeff Harding (AUSTRL)	2	5	10
Bobby Czyz (USA)	3	-	2
Isaias Lucero (MEX)	4	4	7
Yawe Davis (UGA)	5	-	-
David Vedder (USA)	6	9	11
Frank Tate (USA)	7	-	6
Booker Word (USA)	8	3	3
Graciano Rocchigiani (GER)	9	7	4
Joe Lasisi (NIG)	10	-	-
Virgil Hill (USA)	-	C	-
Mike Peak (USA)	-	1	-
Frank Winterstein (FRA)	-	6	-
Andrew Maynard (USA)	12	8	-
Alex Blanchard (USA)	14	10	-
Charles Williams (USA)	-	-	C
James Kinchen (USA)	11	-	1
Freddie Delgado (PR)	23	-	5
Vincent Boulware (USA)	-	-	8
Mwehu Beya (ITA)	25	-	9

SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Mauro Galvano (ITA)	C	-	-
Tony Byrd (USA)	1	2	1
Ron Essett (USA)	2	4	4
Frank Winterstein (FRA)	3	-	11
Lou Cafaro (AUSTRL)	4	7	-
Dario Matteoni (ARG)	5	8	-
Dan Schommer (USA)	6	-	-
Victor Cordova (PAN)	7	1	7
Tony Thornton (USA)	8	9	5
Nelson Aviles (GER)	9	-	8
Juan Carlos Gimenez (PAR)	10	3	3
Chris Tiozzo (FRA)	-	C	-
Salvador Maciel (MEX)	-	5	-
John Jarvis (USA)	17	6	2
Tarmo Uusivirta (FIN)	-	10	9
Lindell Holmes (USA)	-	-	C
Thulani Malinga (SA)	-	-	6
Segundo Mercado (USA)	-	-	10

MIDDLEWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Julian Jackson (USA)	C	-	-
Dennis Milton (USA)	1	3	6
Reggie Johnson (USA)	2	2	1
Sumbu Kalambay (ITA)	3	1	3
Merqui Sosa (USA)	4	6	7
Michael Watson (GB)	5	5	4
Steve Collins (USA)	6	4	9
Herol Graham (GB)	7	7	11
Francesco Dell'Aquila (ITA)	8	10	-
James Toney (USA)	9	9	10
Gary Stretch (GB)	10	12	12
Mike McCallum (JAM)	-	C	-
Roberto Duran (PAN)	-	8	-
Michael Nunn (USA)	-	-	C
Darren Van Horn (USA)	-	-	2
Matthew Hilton (CAN)	19	-	5
Iran Barkley (USA)	-	-	8

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Terry Norris (USA)	C	-	-
Jorge Castro (ARG)	1	8	-
Gilbert Dele (FRA)	2	2	2
Troy Waters (AUSTRL)	3	-	-
Carlos Elliott (JAP)	4	1	8
Brett Lally (USA)	5	-	10
Julio Cesar Vazquez (ARG)	6	4	-
Glenn Wolfe (USA)	7	9	1
Yung Kil Chung (KOR)	8	-	-
Quincy Taylor (USA)	9	-	6
Darrin Van Horn (USA)	10	-	-
Jun Sok Hwang (KOR)	14	3	-
Carl Daniels (USA)	27	5	-
Laurent Boudouani (FRAN)	20	6	-
Hugo Vilte (ARG)	-	7	-
Gregory Clark (SA)	-	10	-
Gianfranco Rosi (ITA)	-	-	C
Ron Amundsen (USA)	-	12	3
Donald Curry (USA)	-	-	4
Roy Jones (USA)	-	-	5
Arthur Serwano (USA)	24	-	7
Gilbert Baptist (USA)	15	-	9

WELTERWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Maurice Blocker (USA)	C	-	-
Buddy McGirt (USA)	1	2	1
Glenwood Brown (USA)	2	4	2
Marlon Starling (USA)	3	-	6
Engels Pedroza (VEN)	4	3	5
Mark Breland (USA)	5	6	7
Jose Bermudez (COL)	6	12	-
Genaro Leon (MEX)	7	-	12
Crisanto Espana (VEN)	8	5	-
Hiroyuki Yoshino (JAP)	9	9	10
Patrizio Oliva (ITA)	10	10	8
Aaron Davis (USA)	-	C	-
Luis Garcia (VEN)	-	1	4
Meldrick Taylor (USA)	-	7	3
Jung Oh Park (KOR)	12	8	-
Simon Brown (USA)	-	-	C
Carl Daniels (USA)	-	-	9

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Julio Cesar Chavez (MEX)	C	-	C
Meldrick Taylor (USA)	1	-	-
Angel Hernandez (PR)	2	2	-
Roger Mayweather (USA)	3	5	3
Alberto Cortes (ARG)	4	-	-
John Duplessis (USA)	5	-	-
Juan M. Coggi (ARG)	6	3	6
Harold Brazier (USA)	7	-	4
Marco Lizarraga (MEX)	8	-	10
Pat Barrett (GB)	9	6	8
Rafael Pineda (COL)	10	8	1
Loreto Garza (USA)	-	C	-
Akinobu Hiranaka (JAP)	24	1	-
Edwin Rosario (PR)	21	4	-
Mun Sil Chi (KOR)	17	7	-
John Meekins (USA)	13	9	7
Julio Barria (CHIL)	16	10	-
Charles Murray (USA)	12	-	2
Rodney Moore (USA)	14	11	5
Santos Cardona (USA)	-	-	9

LIGHTWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Pernell Whitaker (USA)	C	C	C
Chil Sung Chun (KOR)	1	6	-
Poli Diaz (SPA)	2	1	3
Tracy Spann (USA)	3	2	1
Darryl Tyson (USA)	4	7	4
Anthony Jones (USA)	5	10	7
Freddie Pendleton (USA)	6	-	2
Carl Crook (GB)	7	-	-
Sharmba Mitchell (USA)	8	-	6
Tae Jin Moon (KOR)	9	11	-
Miguel Gonzalez (MEX)	10	-	-
Primo Ramos (MEX)	-	3	12
Juan Nazario (PR)	15	4	9
William Rojas (VEN)	-	5	-
Iwao Otomo (JAP)	11	8	-
Fabian Tejeda (ARG)	17	9	-
Eduardo Molina (COL)	23	-	5
John Duplessis (USA)	-	-	8
Edwin Rosario (PR)	-	-	10

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Azumah Nelson (GHA)	C	-	-
Jeff Fenech (AUSTRL)	1	-	-
Genaro Hernandez (USA)	2	2	12
Bernard Taylor (USA)	3	11	8
John-John Molina (PR)	4	-	1
Tyrone Downes (TRIN)	5	-	-
Takeyuki Akagi (JAP)	6	12	-
Rowdy Welch (USA)	7	-	-
Manuel Medina (MEX)	8	-	-
Joey Gamache (USA)	9	3	6
Juan LaPorte (PR)	10	-	-
Brian Mitchell (SA)	-	C	-
Anibal Nieves (VEN)	24	1	-
Daniel Londas (FRA)	-	4	-
Jerry Ngobeni (SA)	-	5	4
Frankie Mitchell (USA)	15	6	9
Rudy Cabiles (PHIL)	21	7	11
Pierre Lorcy (FRA)	27	8	-
Renato Cornett (AUSTRL)	13	9	7
Joey Jacobs (USA)	-	10	-
Tony Lopez (USA)	-	-	C
Coco Ramirez (MEX)	17	-	2
Fernando Caicedo (COL)	-	-	3
Jose Sanabria (VEN)	-	-	5
Calvin Grove (USA)	29	-	10

FEATHERWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Marcos Villasana (MEX)	C	-	-
Ricardo Cepeda (USA)	1	3	2
Paul Hodkinson (GB)	2	5	-
Louie Espinoza (USA)	3	-	6
Rafael Zuniga (COL)	4	6	4
Yung Kyun Park (KOR)	5	2	-
Eloy Rojas (VEN)	6	1	-
Ever Beleno (COL)	7	-	-
Lupe Gutierrez (USA)	8	-	5
Alfred Rangel (USA)	9	9	3
Sean Murphy (GB)	10	12	-
Antonio Esparragoza (VEN)	-	C	-
Jackie Gunguluza (SA)	-	4	-
Harold Warren (USA)	-	7	-
Rafael Ruelas (USA)	11	8	-
Manuel Medina (MEX)	-	10	7
Jorge Paez (MEX)	-	-	C

WBC as of November
WBA as of December
IBF as of January

Troy Dorsey (USA)	13	-	1
Tom Johnson (USA)	14	-	8
Steve McCrory (USA)	-	-	9
Francisco Arreola (USA)	-	-	10

JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Pedro Decima (ARG)	C	-	-
Tracy Patterson (USA)	1	2	3
Jesse Benavides (USA)	2	4	2
Paul Banke (USA)	3	7	12
Daniel Zaragoza (MEX)	4	-	-
Kiyoshi Hatanaka (JAP)	5	-	-
Jesus Salud (USA)	6	-	8
Noree Jockygym (THAI)	7	3	-
Arcelio Diaz (COL)	8	6	5
Ki Jun Lee (KOR)	9	-	-
Yun Sup Park (KOR)	10	-	-
Luis Mendoza (COL)	-	C	-
Carlos Uribe (CHILE)	14	1	-
Freddy Cruz (DR)	11	5	-
Ruben Palacios (COL)	26	8	-
Jemal Hinton (USA)	12	9	6
Chang Kyun Oh (KOR)	-	10	-
Welcome Ncita (SA)	-	-	C
Baby Rojas (USA)	17	-	1
Hurley Snead (USA)	-	-	4
Fabrice Benichou (FRA)	16	-	7
Miguel Arrozal (PHIL)	-	-	9
Sakda Sawpungdee (THAI)	-	-	10

BANTAMWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Raul Perez (MEX)	C	-	-
Pepillo Valdez (MEX)	1	-	7
Yong Hoon Lee (KOR)	2	4	-
Chang Kyun Oh (KOR)	3	-	-
Greg Richardson (USA)	4	6	4
Eun Sik Lee (KOR)	5	5	-
Billy Hardy (GB)	6	-	1
Gerardo Martinez (USA)	7	-	8
Yun Chun Min (KOR)	8	9	-
Hector Acero (DR)	9	-	-
Victor Rabanales (MEX)	10	-	-
Luisito Espinosa (PHIL)	-	C	-
Israel Contreras (VEN)	-	1	2
Kiyoshi Hatanaka (JAP)	-	2	6
Eliecher Julio (COL)	29	3	-
Abraham Torres (VEN)	-	7	-
Hurley Snead (USA)	-	8	-
Vincenzo Belcastro (ITA)	20	10	-
Orlando Canizales (USA)	-	-	C
Thierry Jacob (FRA)	12	11	3
Duke McKenzie (GB)	26	-	5
Francisco Alvarez (COL)	15	-	9
Javier Leon (MEX)	13	-	10

JUNIOR BANTAMWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Sung Kil Moon (KOR)	C	-	-
Nana Konadu (GHA)	1	-	-
Kid Akeem (NIG)	2	5	5
Thanomsak Sithbaobey (THAI)	3	4	-
Johnny Tapia (USA)	4	7	4
Katsuya Onizuka (JAP)	5	3	-
Santos Laciar (ARG)	6	-	-
Rey Paciones (PHIL)	7	2	2
Armando Salazar (MEX)	8	-	-
Armando Castro (MEX)	9	-	-
Kenji Matsumura (JAP)	10	8	-
Khaosai Galaxy (THAI)	-	C	-
David Griman (VEN)	11	1	-
William Ramos (PR)	-	6	-
Juan Polo (COL)	17	9	6
Carlos Mercado (COL)	12	10	1
Robert Quiroga (USA)	-	-	C
Daorung Chuvatana (THAI)	-	-	3
Vincenzo Belcastro (ITA)	-	-	7
Satoshi Shingaki (JAP)	-	-	8
Victor Rabanales (MEX)	-	-	9
Marianus (INDO)	20	12	10

FLYWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Sot Chitalada (THAI)	C	-	-
Jung Koo Chang (KOR)	1	-	-
Yun Un Chin (KOR)	2	6	-
Francisco Tejedor (COL)	3	-	-
Richard Clarke (JAM)	4	-	6
Yul Woo Lee (KOR)	5	5	-
Pat Clinton (GB)	6	9	-
Isaias Zamudio (USA)	7	-	10
Jae Suk Park (KOR)	8	12	-
Rodolfo Blanco (COL)	9	2	1
Dodi Penalosa (PHIL)	10	3	3
Leopard Tamakuma (JAP)	-	C	-
Elvis Alvarez (COL)	-	1	-
Kotaro Hayashi (JAP)	23	4	-
Jesus Rojas (VEN)	18	7	-
Torsak Osoisapa (THAI)	-	8	5
Yong Kang Kim (KOR)	11	10	-
Dave McAuley (IRE)	-	-	C
Javier Lucas (MEX)	-	-	2
Tongchai Kittikasem (THAI)	-	-	4
Al Kotey (GHA)	-	-	7
Ricky Romero (USA)	13	-	8
Johanes Nanlohi (INDO)	-	-	9

LIGHT FLYWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Rolando Pascua (PHIL)	C	-	-
Domingo Sosa (DR)	1	-	1
Humberto Gonzalez (MEX)	2	8	3
Katzumi Komiyama (JAP)	3	-	-
Hiroki Ioka (JAP)	4	1	5
Nam Hoon Cha (KOR)	5	3	-
Jeung Keun Lim (KOR)	6	9	-
Jorge Rivera (MEX)	7	-	9
Leo Gamez (VEN)	8	4	-
Kimio Hirano (JAP)	9	-	-
Melchor Cob Castro (MEX)	10	-	-
Yuh Myung Woo (KOR)	-	C	-
Kajkong Danphoothai (THAI)	-	2	-
Muangchai Kittikasem (THAI)	11	5	7
Juan Torres (PAN)	-	6	-
Hector Patri (ARG)	-	7	-
Jacob Matlala (SA)	-	10	-
Michael Carbajal (USA)	-	-	C
Robinson Cuestas (PAN)	-	11	2
Leon Salazar (PAN)	14	-	4
Antonio Perez (MEX)	13	-	6
Tacy Macalos (PHIL)	-	-	8
Rey Hernandez (MEX)	15	-	10

STRAWWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Ricardo Lopez (MEX)	C	-	-
Kyung Yung Lee (KOR)	1	-	-
Hector Patri (ARG)	2	-	5
Pretty Boy Lucas (PHIL)	3	5	1
Hideyuki Ohashi (JAP)	4	7	8
Chana Porpaoin (THAI)	5	2	7
Hi Yong Choi (KOR)	6	1	-
Ala Villamor (PHIL)	7	-	2
Macario Santos (MEX)	8	-	-
Rocky Lim (JAP)	9	12	3
Javier Varquez (MEX)	10	-	-
Bong Jun Kim (KOR)	-	C	-
Carlos Rodriguez (VEN)	-	3	-
Katsumi Komiyama (JAP)	-	4	-
Joo Sup Shin (KOR)	11	6	-
Kimio Hirano (JAP)	-	8	-
Danny Nunez (DR)	15	9	-
Silverio Barcenas (PAN)	16	10	9
Far Lan Lookmingkwan (THAI)	-	-	C
Felix Naranjo (COL)	-	-	4
Eric Chavez (PHIL)	18	-	6
Joe Constantino (PHIL)	-	-	10

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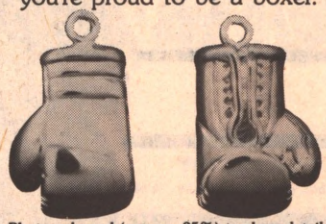

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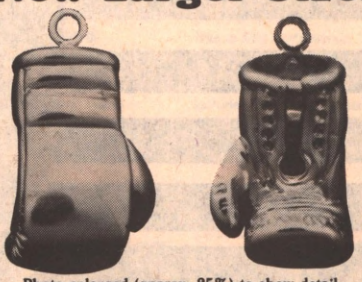

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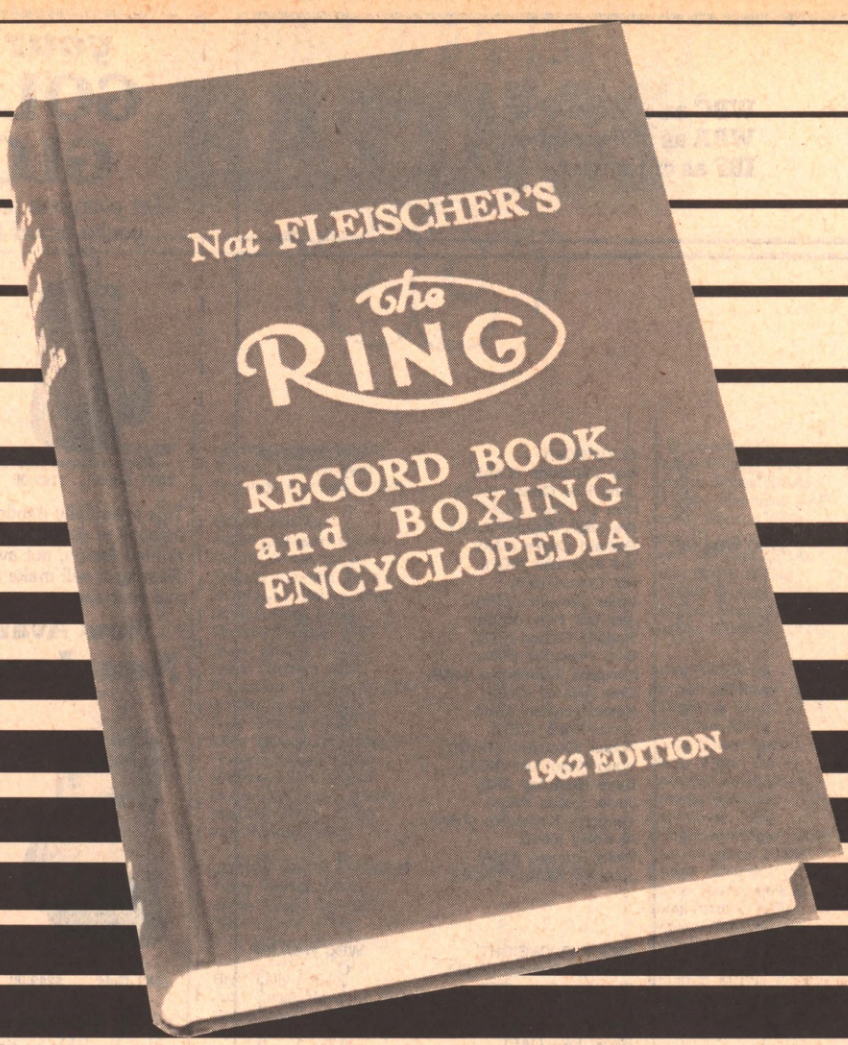

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The RING CLASSIC

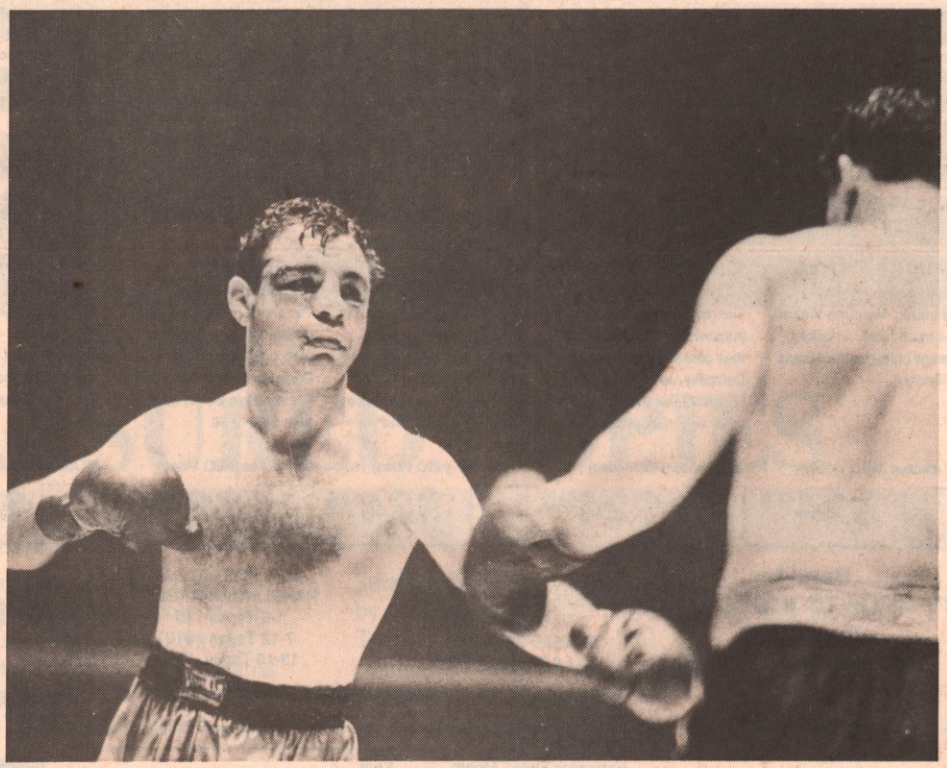
CANZONERI'S LAST STAND

Tony Finds McLarnin's Left Too Much In Return Bout; Jimmy Gives Fine Boxing Lesson

From The Ring, December 1936

By Nat Fleischer

A few weeks ago in Madison Square Garden, fight fans witnessed the passing of a great champion when Tony Canzoneri, former world lightweight king, was battered into submission by Jimmy McLarnin, former welter champion, in a battle that kept 12,000 fans on edge from start to finish. No matter whom you favored in this return engagement between these sturdy ringmen, you couldn't help but throw your sympathy to Canzoneri, whose game stands earned him rounds of applause.



Tony Canzoneri, one of the greatest champions in boxing history, is battered and beaten by Jimmy McLarnin in their Madison Square Garden rematch. Canzoneri had defeated McLarnin five months earlier via 10-round decision.

Poor Tony. I hated to leave the Garden with the picture that had confronted me all evening—that of one of the greatest champions of recent years taking an awful beating from his nine pounds heavier opponent.

Tony has gone the way of all champions. The smell of the resin is too alluring for him to ignore it. Just one more battle is the usual cry of ring veterans, especially those who have held the upper hand for so long a time, as did Canzoneri. And when Father Time beckons, they refuse to heed the call. The result—well, we saw what it leads to last night. Not that Canzoneri is an old man—far from it—but he is old in fighting years, for he has put in a dozen years of boxing and is only 27.

Just think of it! If you want to know why fighters of repute insist on big money: through at the age of 27, when most are just in the prime of life, and others just about beginning a long, useful career!

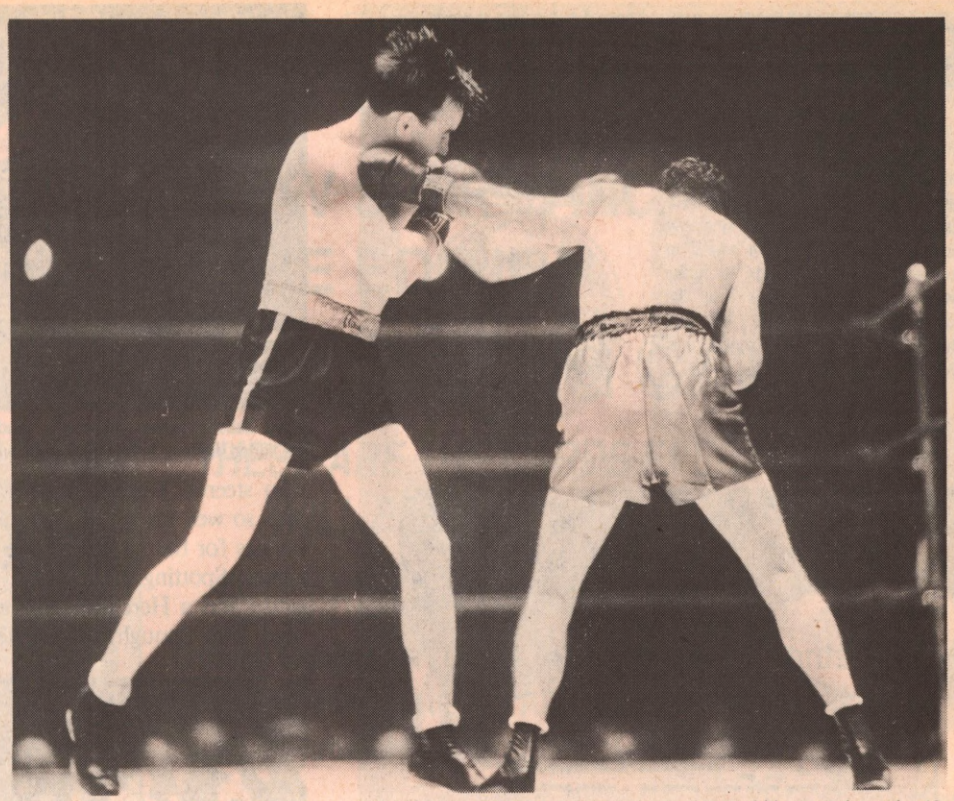
That's what the fight game means, and that's why a fighter is entitled to all he can command. His days are limited. His ring life is short, and if he cannot earn enough to put aside when he's in the game, he'll find very little opportunity to do so after his career has ended.

***

As for the fight, it was just what we had expected—a keenly fought, thrilling bout, with two knockdowns, one scored by each, and not a moment of idleness to mar the affair from start to finish. McLarnin, as I had expected,

turned the tables on his opponent, who had whipped him in their first encounter five months earlier. That's usually the way with the little Irishman. He exhibited as pretty a left jab as we have seen in many moons, and he literally stabbed Tony to defeat with it. It cut Tony's face to ribbons. He was a terrible sight to behold at the finish, one that elicited the sympathy of all who want to remember Canzoneri not on his performance against McLarnin in this fight, but as the great champion he was.

Tony's fighting days are over. He should know it, just as do the fans, yet he refuses to admit it and insists that he will continue, with a return mill with lightweight champion Lou Ambers as his objective. His friends are urging him to quit, as is his manager, Sammy Goldman,



As game as any fighter alive, Canzoneri spotted McLarnin eight pounds and chugged toward him over the entire 10 rounds. He rarely worked past his rival's jab, however, and, as a result, absorbed consistent punishment.

THE RING RATINGS, *December 1936*

Lou Ambers

HEAVYWEIGHTS

World Champ: Jimmy Braddock

1. Max Schmeling
2. Joe Louis
3. Maxie Rosenbloom
4. Jack Trammell
5. Tommy Loughran
6. Ray Impellitiere
7. Al Ettore
8. Ben Foord
9. Al McCoy
10. Bob Pastor

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS

World Champ: John Henry Lewis

1. Al Gainer
2. Leo Kelly
3. Jock McAvoy
4. Gus Lesnevich
5. Carmen Barth
6. Ray Actis
7. Fred Lenhart
8. Dave Clark
9. Steve Carr
10. Joey Parks

MIDDLEWEIGHTS

World Champ: Marcel Thil

1. Freddie Steele
2. Fred Apostoli
3. Ken Overlin
4. Lou Brouillard
5. Solly Krieger
6. Oscar Rankins
7. Erich Seelig
8. Young Corbett
9. Teddy Yarosz
10. Harry Balsamo

WELTERWEIGHTS

World Champ: Barney Ross

1. Jack Carroll
2. Jimmy McLarnin
3. Ceferino Garcia
4. Izzy Jannazzo
5. Cleto Locatelli
6. Fritzie Zivic
7. Cocoa Kid
8. Jack Portney
9. Gustave Eder
10. Jimmy Leto

LIGHTWEIGHTS

World Champ: Lou Ambers

1. Tony Canzoneri
2. Pedro Montanez
3. Enrico Venturi
4. Laurie Stevens
5. Chino Alvarez
6. Indian Hurtado
7. Aldo Spoldi
8. Wesley Ramey
9. Howard Scott
10. Joey Alcanter

FEATHERWEIGHTS

World Champ: Petey Sarron

1. Henry Armstrong
2. Mike Belloise
3. Freddie Miller
4. Baby Arizmendi
5. Dick Corbett
6. Johnny McGrory
7. Nel Tarleton
8. Tony Chavez
9. Fillo Echeverria
10. Benny Sharkey

BANTAMWEIGHTS

World Champ: Sixto Escobar

1. Indian Quintana
2. Frankie Martin
3. Tony Marino
4. Lou Salica
5. K.O. Morgan
6. Baltasar Sangchili
7. Johnny King
8. Henry Hooks
9. Pancho Leyvas
10. Jackie Brown

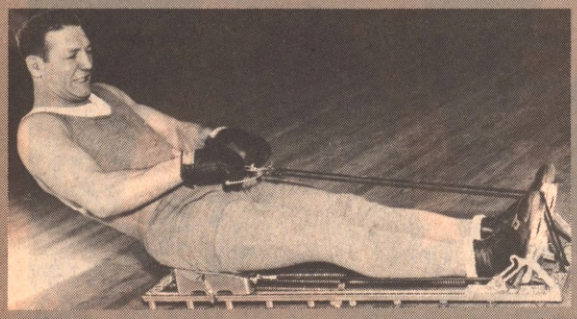
FLYWEIGHTS

World Champ: Title Vacant

1. Jim Warnock
2. Benny Lynch
3. Small Montana
4. Peter Kane
5. Valentin Anglemann
6. Maurice Huguenin
7. Katsuma Morioka
8. Enrico Urbinati
9. Phil Milligan
10. Syd Parker

THE RING, December 1936

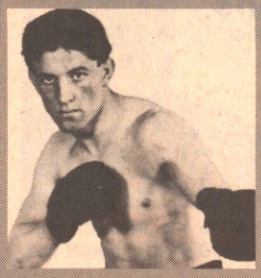
The Cover: Bantamweight great Sixto Escobar, the first world champion from Puerto Rico, is featured. Escobar was crowned after stopping Tony Marino in the 13th round in August. He would go on to make two successful defenses, lose the crown to Harry Jeffra in 1937, and then regain it in 1938. Escobar was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1975.



Slapsy Maxie: Ted Carroll reports on former light heavyweight champion Maxie Rosenbloom, who has returned to the United States after three summer bouts in Australia. "It seems to be taken for granted," writes Carroll, "that he will be slapping and cuffing his way to a decision in some forgotten byway of fistiana until the end of time . . . "

A Heavyweight Issue: Publisher Nat Fleischer addresses the issue of whether heavyweight champion Jimmy Braddock (pictured) should be allowed to engage in non-title bouts. If the heavyweight champion is kayoed in such a bout, Fleischer argues, he should lose the crown. Fleischer got his way. All non-title fights involving the heavyweight champion were subsequently contested as exhibitions.

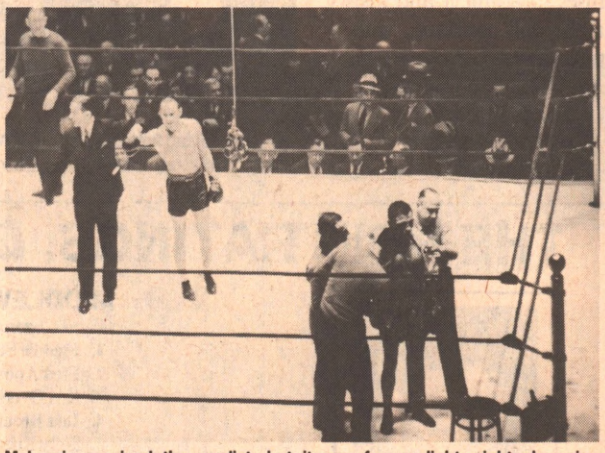
A Fond Remembrance: Recalled with affection by George T. Pardy is master boxer Packey McFarland, who passed away in the late-summer in Joliet, Illinois. McFarland, whose career spanned the first 15 years of the new century, was considered among the finest fighters of his era. Only his inability to consistently make the 135-pound limit prevented him from being crowned a champion.



A Determined Comeback: Twenty-two-year-old heavyweight Joe Louis, derailed by Max Schmeling in June, rebounds with a string of kayos. Covered in words and pictures are "The Brown Bomber's" stoppages of Al Ettore (pictured with Louis at the weigh in) and Jorge Brescia. Nat Fleischer concludes that while Louis is likely to become a champion, his weakness, a tendency to get hit by right hands, remains uncorrected.

Harry Ballogh raises McLarnin's hand. Although Canzoneri looked to be the faded fighter, it was McLarnin who retired after one more fight.

who steered Tony into several titles and handled his affairs so well that the little Italian will be able to live on his savings for the rest of his life if he chooses to hang up his gloves. Spotting Jimmy eight pounds at this stage of his career was a Herculean hurdle for Tony to overcome. He tried hard enough, but he fell far short of the mark.



McLarnin received the verdict, but it was former lightweight champion Canzoneri, led to his corner by his handlers, who was cheered by the fans.

McLarnin gave a beautiful exhibition of boxing, a reminder of the days when he was the greatest fighter of his weight. He had Canzoneri's style so well studied that Tony had the greatest of difficulty to land his famed right. Tony tossed dozens at Jimmy, but the Irishman avoided most of them. And while so doing, he peppered Tony with lefts, with sometimes four to six in a row connecting before one missed. In one round I counted 32 lefts to Tony's face. No wonder poor Canzoneri's face looked like raw beef!

At times, Canzoneri's legs just wouldn't move for him. He became so tired that he was almost glued to one spot while McLarnin peppered him. McLarnin let Tony do most of the leading, but countered frequently and jabbed, jabbed, and jabbed, always having his right cocked for action at the same time.

Tony showed his mettle when he arose after being floored in the second with a powerful right. When he got up, he kept moving in on legs that wouldn't react to his will as they had in the past.

Canzoneri's 10th-round rally was one of the high spots of the fight. Battered and bruised, with lips and eye cut, and his legs and arms weary, he went out at the clang of the bell to make one last fighting effort, but it was not enough. ■

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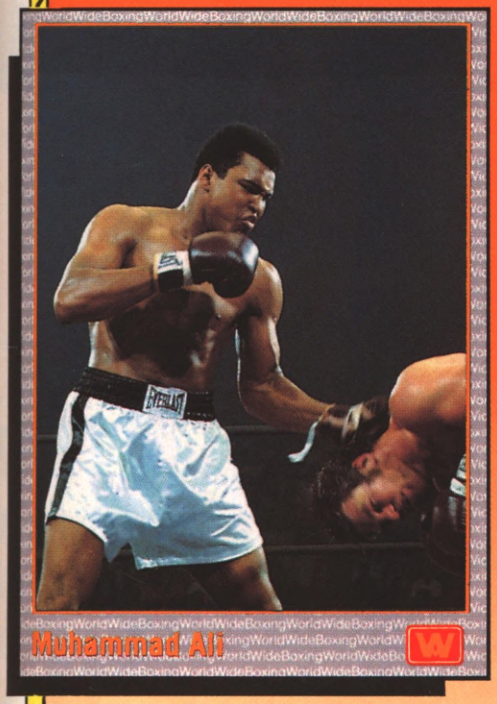

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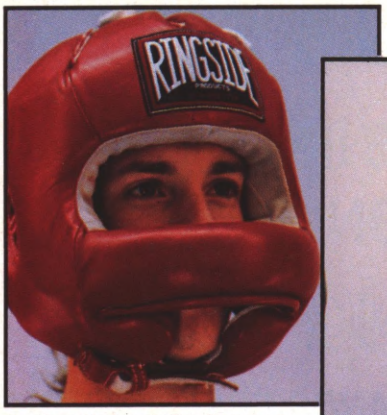

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